

**Ministry of Local Government and  
Regional Development**



**WHO'S WHO**

**IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE**

**Directory of Local Government Organs  
& Officials**

**GUYANA**

# Table of Content

Foreword

Message – His Excellency Mr. Donald Ramotar

Message – Hon. Ganga Persaud, M.P

Message – Hon. Norman Whittaker, M.P

Administrative Map of Guyana

Officials of the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development

Government Ministries

Local Government of Guyana

Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development

Divisions of the Ministry

The Regional Democratic Council

Functions of the Regional Democratic Councils

The Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

Functions of Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

Municipal Councils

Why Pay Rates & Taxes?

Region # 1

Regional Democratic Council

Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

Region # 2

Regional Democratic Council

Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

Region 3

Regional Democratic Council

Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

Region 4

Regional Democratic Council

Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

Region 5

Regional Democratic Council

Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

Region 6

Regional Democratic Council

Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

Region 7

Regional Democratic Council

Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

Region 8

Regional Democratic Council

Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

Region 9

Regional Democratic Council

Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

Region 10

Regional Democratic Council

Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

## Foreword

Local Government throughout the world has recognized the importance of public participation in community development. When citizens are educated about local government and the role they play, they begin to take up ownership in their development.

Hence, the Ministry embarked on the initiative of preparing this directory in order to facilitate the citizenry and provide guidance on several aspects of Local Governance along with the leading figures that manage our Ministry and Local Government Organs that provide services to our people in this beautiful country, Guyana.

Sincere thanks to all who contributed to the completion of this document.



## **Message from His Excellency**

**Mr. Donald Ramotar**

I welcome the launch of “WHO’S WHO IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE” and wish to commend the Ministry of Local Government for their foresight in putting together this timely publication, which provides information about the various levels of the local government’s networks as well as a mini-directory of the personnel within the system.

Guyana has a representative system of local government and it is important for the public, at large, to know the various representatives within their municipalities and neighbourhood democratic systems and how to get in contact with such authorities. This information will facilitate improved access by members of the various local government offices and officials.

As President of Guyana, I wish to emphasise the importance of local government officials being responsive to the complaints and concerns of their communities. Improving access to public officials will, I believe, contribute to the improvement of local government services. As such, I believe that the launch of this magazine will assist in bringing our elected local government representatives and local authorities closer

to their constituents. I urge all who work within the local government system to see themselves as servants of the people, and to be alert and proactive in dealing with their complaints and concerns with understanding. In so doing, you will be fulfilling your mandate to the people.

If this publication makes only but a modest contribution to this cause, it would have done a great service to the people of Guyana.

Donald Ramotar

President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana



## Message from the Minister of Local Government & Regional Development

Mr. Ganga Persaud

Since my recent appointment as Minister of Local Government & Regional Development much of my energies and efforts will be channeled towards the holding of Local Government Elections in 2012 as promised by His Excellency, Mr. Donald Ramotar. This is seen as an important aspect of re-enforcing local democracy in our striving and developing economy.

In the interim my ministry will continue to aid and fortify our local government organs to ensure that quality and efficient services are provided to our people. My approach will definitely be an unprejudiced one, since this has always been the bedrock of the PPP/C Government pertinently led in the early years by our late great leader Dr. Cheddi Jagan, sustained by Dr. Bharrat Jagdeo and in my present position vow to ensure that under the leadership of President Ramotar, our people comfort and well-being remains a priority.

We at the Ministry look forward to serve you and seek your ubiquitous support.

Thank you and best of wishes.

Ganga Persaud

Ministry of Local Government & Regional Development



My appointment as Minister within the Ministry of Local Government & Regional Development encompasses the responsibility for the sixty five Neighbourhood Democratic Councils and six Municipalities/ Townships across Guyana. The oath of office provides for fairness and equity in discharging the duties and functions of this honourable office.

I therefore take great pleasure in being afforded the opportunity to serve in this capacity and promise to maintain strategic partnerships with all stakeholders to build Guyana's future through globally accepted practices and principles of Good (local) Governance.

Best regards

Norman Whittaker

Minister within the Ministry of Local Government & Regional Development

## **History**

"Guiana" was the name given to the area sighted by Columbus in 1498, comprising modern Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana, and parts of Brazil and Venezuela. The Dutch settled in Guyana in the late 16th century, when the Amerindians welcomed them as trading partners. However, colonial government and exploitation of the Amerindians--and later of African slaves--followed. Interrupted briefly by the French and British, Dutch control ended when the British became the de facto rulers in 1796. In 1815, the colonies of Essequibo, Demerara, and Berbice were officially ceded to Great Britain at the Congress of Vienna and, in 1831, were consolidated as British Guiana.

Following the abolition of slavery in 1834, thousands of indentured labourers were brought to Guyana to replace the slaves on the sugar cane plantations, primarily from India but also from Portugal and China. The British stopped the practice in 1917. Many of the Afro-Guyanese former slaves moved to the towns and became the majority of the urban population, whereas the Indo-Guyanese remained predominantly rural. A scheme in 1862 to bring black workers from the United States was unsuccessful. The small Amerindian population stills live in communal settlements in the interior.



Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan

Guyanese politics has nevertheless occasionally been turbulent. The first modern political party in Guyana was the People's Progressive Party (PPP) established on January 1, 1950.

The leader of the party with the largest vote, Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan, automatically became President; he was sworn in on October 9, 1992. Under Dr. Jagan's leadership Guyana held Local Government Elections in 1994, two years after being the first democratically elected President and more than twenty years since the last local government elections were held.

## Capital City

Georgetown, Guyana's Capital City and chief port is situated on the right bank of the estuary of the Demerara River. The site was originally chosen as a Fort to guard the early Dutch settlements of the Demerara River.

The city lies below sea level and is protected from the Atlantic Ocean by the sea wall which was originally built in two phases.

Georgetown is over two hundred years old.

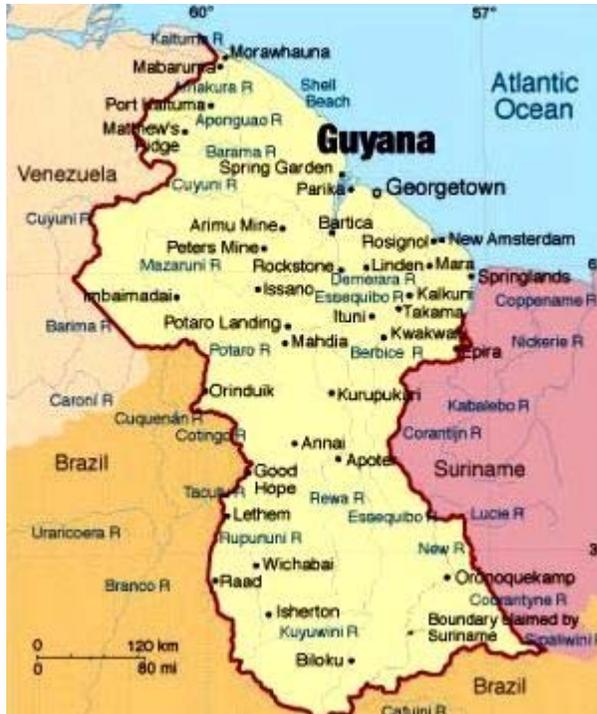


## Geography

Guyana (full name is Co-operative Republic of Guyana) is a tropical country situated on the northern coast of South America. It is the only country in South America where English is the official language. It is bordered by Venezuela on the west, Suriname on the east, Brazil on the south and the Atlantic Ocean on the north. Guyana has an area of 214,969 square kilometers (83,000 sq. mi), about the size of Great Britain.

The name Guyana is an Amerindian word meaning Land Of Many Waters. We are known as the country of Six People- Africans, Amerindians, Chinese, East Indians, Europeans and Portuguese. Guyana is notably famous for Kaieteur Falls, which is situated on the

Potaro River, where that river falls off the Pakaraima Plateau



About 2.5 percent (or 537,710 hectares) of the country is cultivated. While about 90 percent of the population lives on the narrow coastal plain, either in Georgetown, the capital, or in villages along the main road running from Charity in the west to the Suriname border.

Four major rivers cross the coastal plain (from west to east) the Essequibo, the Demerara, the Berbice, and the Corentyne (which forms the frontier with Suriname). Only the Demerara and Berbice are crossed by bridges. Elsewhere

ferries must be used. At the mouth of the Essequibo River, 34 kilometers wide, are islands the size of Barbados. The lower reaches of these rivers are navigable (120 kilometers up the Demerara to Linden and 72 kilometers up the Essequibo to the mouth of the Cuyuni River); but waterfalls and rapids prevent them being used by large boats to reach the interior.

# Ministries of Government

<p><b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE</b></p> <p><b>Minister Dr. Leslie Ramsammy</b> Regent Road, Bourda Georgetown, Guyana South America Tel #: 592-226-1565 Fax #: 592-227-2978 E-mail: <a href="mailto:ministerofagriculture@gmail.com">ministerofagriculture@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Minister within the Ministry</b> <b>Hon. Ali Baksh</b> Tele #.592-223-7844 Fax #.592-227-3638 E-mail: <a href="mailto:ministerwithinagriculture@gmail.com">ministerwithinagriculture@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Permanent Secretary</b> Mr. George Jarvis Tel. #. 592-227-5527 Fax #. 592-227-3638 E-mail : <a href="mailto:georgejarvis@gmail.com">georgejarvis@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT &amp; REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b></p> <p><b>Minister Ganga Persaud</b> Kingston Georgetown, Guyana South America Tel. # 592-225-8621 Fax # 592-226-0481 E-mail: <a href="mailto:gpersaud20052006@yahoo.com">gpersaud20052006@yahoo.com</a></p> <p><b>Minister within the Ministry</b> <b>Hon. Norman Whittaker, M.P</b> Tel # 592-226-0617 E-mail: <a href="mailto:whittaker_norman@yahoo.com">whittaker_norman@yahoo.com</a></p> <p><b>Permanent Secretary</b> Mr. Collin Croal Tel. # 592-225-8619 Email: <a href="mailto:cd.croal@yahoo.com">cd.croal@yahoo.com</a></p>
<p><b>MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH &amp; SPORTS</b></p> <p><b>Minister Frank Anthony</b> 71 Main Street, South Cummingsburg, Georgetown, Guyana, South America. Tel. #: 592-227-7860 Fax #. 592-225-5067 E-mail: <a href="mailto:drfrankcsanthony@gmail.com">drfrankcsanthony@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Permanent Secretary</b> Mr. Alfred King Tel. #. 592-226-8542 Fax #. 592-226-8549 E-mail: <a href="mailto:pskingmincys@yahoo.com">pskingmincys@yahoo.com</a></p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</b></p> <p><b>Minister Priya Manickchand</b> 26 Brickdam, Stabroek Georgetown, Guyana South America Tel. #. 592-226-3094 Fax #. 592-225-5570 E-mail: <a href="mailto:moe.manickchand@gmail.com">moe.manickchand@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Permanent Secretary</b> Ms. Delma Nedd Tel. # 592-226-3891 E-mail: <a href="mailto:delmanedd_edu@yahoo.com">delmanedd_edu@yahoo.com</a></p>

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS**

**Minister Carolyn Rodrigues  
Birkett**

254 South Road, Bourda  
Georgetown, Guyana  
South America

Tel. #. 592-226-9080; 592-226-  
1606-9

Fax # 592-223-5241

E-mail: [carolynr@gol.net.gy](mailto:carolynr@gol.net.gy)

**Director General**

Ms. Elisabeth Harper

Tel. # 592-225-7404

Fax #. 592-225-9192

E-mail:

[eaharper@minfor.gov.gy](mailto:eaharper@minfor.gov.gy)

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN  
TRADE & INTERNATIONAL  
CO-OPERATION**

254 South Road, Bourda  
Georgetown, Guyana  
South America

Tel.#: 592-226-5064; 592-226-  
8427

Fax #: 592-226-8426

**Permanent Secretary**

John Isaacs

Fax:223-0900

Tel. # 227-7726

Tel. # 226-1607 Ext 314, 300

Email: [psmoftic@mofitic.gov.gy](mailto:psmoftic@mofitic.gov.gy)

Website: <http://www.mofitic.gov.gy>

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

**Minister Bheri Ramsaran**

Brickdam, Stabroek, Georgetown  
Guyana, South America

Tel. # 592-226-1560

Fax # 592-225-4505

E-mail: [bheriramsaran@yahoo.com](mailto:bheriramsaran@yahoo.com)

**Permanent Secretary**

Mr. Leslie Cadogan

Tel. #. 592-225-6785

Fax # 592-225-6985/0113

E-mail: [leslie8520@yahoo.com](mailto:leslie8520@yahoo.com)

**MINISTRY OF HOME  
AFFAIRS**

**Minister Clement Rohee**

Brickdam, Stabroek,  
Guyana

South America

Tel #: 5929-225-7270

Fax #: 592-227-4806

E-mail: [homemin@guyana.net.gy](mailto:homemin@guyana.net.gy)

**Permanent Secretary**

Mrs. Angela Johnson

Tel #: 592-225-6221

Fax #: 592-226-2740

**E-mail:**

**MINISTRY OF AMERINDIAN  
AFFAIRS**

**Minister Pauline Sukhai**

Thomas and Quamina Street  
Georgetown, Guyana  
South America  
Tel. #: 592-227-5067  
Fax #: 592-225-7072  
Email: [pauline\\_sukhai@yahoo.com](mailto:pauline_sukhai@yahoo.com)

**Permanent Secretary**

Mr. Nigel Dharmall  
Tele #: 592-223-7285  
Fax #: 592-223-1616

E-mail: [nigeldd@hotmail.com](mailto:nigeldd@hotmail.com)

**MINISTRY OF LEGAL  
AFFAIRS**

**Minister Anil Nandalall**

95 Carmichael Street, North  
Cummings burg  
Georgetown, Guyana  
South America.  
Tel #: 592-225-3607  
Fax #: 592-227-5419

E-mail: [anil\\_nandalall@hotmail.com](mailto:anil_nandalall@hotmail.com)

**Permanent Secretary**

Mr. Edward Wills  
Tel #: 592-225-3663  
Fax #: 592-226-9721

E-mail: [ps@legalaffairs.gov.gy](mailto:ps@legalaffairs.gov.gy)

**MINISTRY OF LABOUR**

**Minister Nanda Gopaul**

1 Water Street, Stabroek  
Georgetown, Guyana  
South America  
Tel. # 592-226-6115  
Fax #592-227-1308

E-mail: [nkgopaul@yahoo.com](mailto:nkgopaul@yahoo.com)

**Permanent Secretary**

Ms. Loreen Baird  
Tel. # 592-223-7585

E-mail: [psmlhsss@yahoo.com](mailto:psmlhsss@yahoo.com)

**Ministry of Human Services &  
Social Security**

**Minister Jennifer Webster**

1 water street, Stabroek  
Georgetown, Guyana  
South America.  
Tel. # 592-231-6501

E-mail: [ministerhsss@yahoo.com](mailto:ministerhsss@yahoo.com)

**Permanent Secretary**

Ms. Loreen Baird  
Tel. # 592-223-7585

E-mail: [psmlhsss@yahoo.com](mailto:psmlhsss@yahoo.com)

**OFFICE OF THE PRIME  
MINISTER**

**Prime Minister Hon. Samuel Hinds**

Kingston  
Georgetown, Guyana  
South America  
Tel # :592-226-6955  
Fax #: 529-226-7573

E-mail: [opm@networksgy.gy](mailto:opm@networksgy.gy)

**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

**Head of Presidential Secretariat**

**Dr. Roger Luncheon**

New Garden Street, Bourda  
Georgetown, Guyana  
South America  
Tel #: 592-225-7051  
Fax #: 592-226-3395

Email: [Donald.ramotar@gmail.com](mailto:Donald.ramotar@gmail.com)

**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC  
WORKS &  
COMMUNICATIONS**

**Minister Robeson Benn**  
Wight's Lane, Kingston  
Georgetown, Guyana  
South America.

Tel #: 592-226-1875  
Fax #: 592-225-6954

E-mail: [minister@publicworks.gov.gy](mailto:minister@publicworks.gov.gy)

**Permanent Secretary**

Mr. Balraj Balram  
Tel #: 592-225-6510  
Fax #: 592-226-2956

E-mail: [balbalram@hotmail.com](mailto:balbalram@hotmail.com)

**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC  
SERVICE**

**Minister Dr. Jennifer Westford**

164 Waterloo Street, North Cummings  
burg

Georgetown Guyana

Tel #: 592-227-1193

Fax #: 592-227-2700

E-mail: [jwestford2@yahoo.com](mailto:jwestford2@yahoo.com)

**Permanent Secretary**

Mr. Balraj Balram

Tel # 592 -225-6510

Fax #: 592-226-2956

E-mail: [balbalram@hotmail.com](mailto:balbalram@hotmail.com)

**MINISTRY OF NATURAL  
RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT**

Minister Robert Persaud  
Office of the President  
Shiv Chandrapaul Drive  
Georgetown, Guyana

Tele #: 225-5285/223-0917

Fax #: 223-0969

E-mail: [mpersaud@nre.gov.gy](mailto:mpersaud@nre.gov.gy)

**Permanent Secretary**

Mr. Joslyn Mc Kenzie

Tele #: 225-5285 - Ext 209

E-mail: [jmckenzie@nre.gov.gy](mailto:jmckenzie@nre.gov.gy)

**MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**Minister Irfaan Ali (Ag)**  
**South Road, Stabroek**  
**Georgetown, Guyana**

Tel #: 592-225-6710

Fax #: 225-4310

E-mail: [minister\\_housing@yahoo.com](mailto:minister_housing@yahoo.com)

## **Geographic/Administrative**

### **Regions:**

In 2001 Guyana was divided into ten geographic constituencies that correspond with the ten Administrative Regions. These are

- Region 1 (Barima-Waini),
- Region 2 (Pomeroon – Supenaam),
- Region 3 (Essequibo Islands – West Demerara),
- Region 4 (Demerara – Mahaica),
- Region 5, Mahaica – Berbice),
- Region 6 (East Berbice – Corentyne),
- Region 7 (Mazuruni – Cuyuni),
- Region 8, (Potaro – Siparuni),
- Region 9 (Upper Essequibo – Upper Takatu) and
- Region 10 (Upper Demerara – Berbice).

The Management of each Region is administered by a Regional Democratic Council (RDC) of which members ranging from 12 to 36 (depending upon the size and population of the Region) are elected at Regional Elections which are held simultaneously with General Elections. In executing the policies of Central Government, the RDCs represent the citizens of the respective Regions. The electoral legislation governing General and Regional Elections made provisions for twenty-five (25) Members of Parliament to be elected directly from these Geographic/Administrative Regions in a framework of proportional representation.

# Map of Guyana showing Geographical constituencies



<b>Region</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Number of seats</b>
1	Barima–Waini	2
2	Pomeroon–Supernaam	2
3	Essequibo Islands - West Demerara	3
4	Demerara–Mahaica	7
5	Mahaica–Berbice	2
6	East Berbice–Corentyne	3
7	Mazaruni–Cuyuni	2
8	Potaro –Siparuni	1
9	Upper Essequibo - Upper Takatu	1
10	Upper Demerara–Berbice	2
	TOTAL	25

Officials of the Ministry of Local Government and Regional  
Development

De Winkle Building  
Fort Street, Kingstown  
Georgetown

2012

**Minister of Local Government and Regional Development**

**Hon. Ganga Persaud, M.P**

**Telephone: 225-8621**

**E-mail: [persaudmin.mlgrd@yahoo.com](mailto:persaudmin.mlgrd@yahoo.com)**

**Minister within the Ministry of Local Government &  
Regional Development**

**Hon. Norman Whittaker, M.P**

**Telephone: 226-5071-3**

**E-mail: [whittaker\\_norman@yahoo.com](mailto:whittaker_norman@yahoo.com)**

**Advisor to Ministers**

**Mr. Clinton Collymore**

**Telephone: 226-5071-3**

**E-mail: [mlgrdminsec@telsnetgy.com](mailto:mlgrdminsec@telsnetgy.com)**

**Coordinator, Hinterland Development**

**Mr. Harripersaud Nokta**

**Telephone: 231-9643**

**Permanent Secretary**

**Mr. Collin Croal**

**Telephone: 226-5071-3**

**E-mail: [permsec@mlgrd.gov.gy](mailto:permsec@mlgrd.gov.gy)**

**Director of Community Development Councils**

**Ms. Philomena Sahoye -Shury J.P**

**Telephone: 225-3263**

**Chief Regional Development Officer**

**Telephone: 227-7963, 6507**

Special Projects Officer

Telephone: 226-5071-3

Principal Regional Development Officer – Local Government

Telephone: 226-5071-3

Principal Regional Development Officer – Planning & Training

Telephone: 226-5071-3

Principal Municipal Services Officer

Telephone: 227-5675, 226-5071-3

Municipal Services Officer

Telephone: 227-5675, 226-5071-3

Senior Regional Development Officer

Telephone: 227-5675, 226-5071-3

Expenditure Planning & Management Analyst 11

Telephone: 226-5071-3

Chief Accountant

Telephone: 227-7916, 226-5071-3

Accountant

Telephone: 226-5071-3

Senior Personnel Officer

Telephone: 226-5071-3

Coordinator, Community Development Councils

Telephone: 225-4878, 226-5071-3

Registry Supervisor

Telephone: 226-5071-3

Focal Point on HIV/AIDS

Telephone: 225-2639, 226 – 5071-

Regional Development Officer (Region #1)

Telephone: 777-5029

Regional Development Officer (Region #2)

Telephone: 771-4274

Regional Development Officer (Region #3)

Telephone: 264-3040

Regional Development Officer (Region #4)

Telephone: 256-3755

Regional Development Officer (Region #5)

Telephone: 232-0305

Regional Development Officer (Region #6)

Telephone: 333-3106

Regional Development Officer (Region #7)

Telephone:

Regional Development Officer (Region #9)

Telephone:

## Local Government System in Guyana

### An Overview

The Local Government System in Guyana originated after the abolition of slavery in 1834. It emerged as a mechanism from colonialism whereby the ex-slaves purchased the abandoned coffee and sugar estates from the plantation owners. Plantations such as Queenstown on the Essequibo Coast and Den Amstel on the West Bank of Demerara were bought out right by one person, whilst others, such as Victoria, were purchased collectively by the freed slaves. The former system of purchase was known as proprietary villages and the latter was referred to as Communal villages. A system of self-government was set up through the establishment of a Management Committee in each village. This system was later adopted in the proprietary village and formed the basis for the emergence of a form of Local Government. This movement however, was met with much hostility by the local planters who feared that the successful achievement of the aims of the villagers would serve as a threat to their continued domination and exploitation of the estate labour force.

The period between 1845-1930 saw the enactment of several legislations that were geared towards improvement in the general conditions of the village councils. In 1932, a decentralised system of administration through District Commissions was introduced and three years later in 1935 an ordinance was passed which provided improved methods of village elections. In 1945 the Local Government Act Chapter 150 (now Chap 28:01) was consolidated and the Municipal District Councils Act Chapter 28:01, the Local Authorities Chap. 28:04 were introduced.

The Ministerial Regional System in 1973 replaced the District Commissioners System of 1932; where the country was divided into six Administrative Regions which functioned as intermediaries between the citizens and the State.

This system was criticised since it was felt that it did not satisfy the needs of the people because it lacked instructional framework for ensuring the development tasks identified were undertaken inter alia. Given the limitations and inadequacies of the system, there was a radical move by the government to enhance regionalism in Guyana. The Local Democratic Organs Act No. 12 of 1980 was introduced against the back ground of the People's New Constitution of Guyana, which identified the Local Government System as the foundation of the democratic organisation of the State. It was perceived as a means of fast tracking development in the communities by the communities.

To achieve this development the entire country was divided into ten (10) regions which were further sub-divided into sub-regions, districts, communities, neighbourhood and people's cooperative units, each being charged with varying responsibilities. This was expected to achieve the objectives set out in Article 71 of the Constitution of Guyana, which is so organised to involve as many people as possible in the task of managing and developing the communities in which they live.

Presently there are ten (10) Administrative Regions, Sixty five (65) Neighbourhood Democratic Councils, Seventy one (71) Amerindian Councils and six Towns (6)

1. Desmond Hoyte, 1980; State Paper on the Re-organisation of the Local Government System in Guyana.
2. NCLDO 1984; A Review of the Operations of Local Democracy in Guyana (1834-1984) (pamphlet)
3. Joan Elvis, Local Government in Guyana – Historical Perspective (pamphlet)

# Local Government Elections rest on completion of reforms

The need for institutional/legislative reforms to stage local government elections was the reason for the hiatus in holding of the polls, and now several years later, the Local Government Ministry is hoping that the remainder of the legislations will be passed so that the reform process can be completed and elections held.



## Minister Ganga Persaud

After the 1997 general and regional elections, the Government and the Opposition Leader, at that time, recognized the need for institutional reforms to facilitate the staging of these polls. Then Opposition Leader Desmond Hoyte and President Bharrat Jagdeo agreed to establish a Local Government Task Force with representatives from both political parties, whose task it was, to examine the changes needed and make recommendations for the necessary reforms.

The task force worked from 2001 and crafted a number of legislations; however in 2009, after several attempts to reach a consensus on critical areas failed, the task force ended abruptly.

According to Local Government and Regional Development Minister, Ganga Persaud “the task force reached a stage where it could not have

gone further in its deliberations because there were some issues on which there was no agreement, with members holding strongly to positions, hence it was concluded that only input and guidance outside of the ambit of the force could have broken the deadlock on these issues”.

Then chairman of the task force, Clinton Collymore, wrote to President Jagdeo and later new Opposition Leader Robert Corbin informing them of the deadlock and advised that the discussions be taken to another level. This prompted dialogue between President Jagdeo and Robert Corbin, and also resulted in the bills completed at the task force level being scrutinized at the level of both parties, and subsequently being put before the National Assembly. Some of those Bills were approved by Parliament and assented to by His Excellency, President Bharrat Jagdeo.

### **CHANGED ELECTORAL SYSTEM**

The legal framework in which the local government elections would be staged was among the areas that have since gained parliamentary approval, and was assented to by former President, Dr. Bharrat Jagdeo. This resulted in a new electoral system that made it possible for individuals to contest the elections. Prior to these changes, the selection of candidates for elections was done by the political parties and groups contesting those elections.

This new system dictates that there should be two components of the local government elections; the Constituency and the Proportional Representation. This new system permits an individual to contest in his or her own constituency where his or her name is listed, whilst the groups and political parties can contest the election both at the Proportional Representative and Constituency levels providing that they identified individuals for each constituency.

The implementation of the new electoral system meant the implementation of several other changes including the correct definition of boundaries for each Neighbourhood Democratic Council (NDC) and Municipality.

## **GECOM'S PREPAREDNESS:**

GECOM would have also developed maps outlining the internal boundaries of the NDCs and Municipalities with legend (description) of the boundaries of each constituency.

With regards to the staging of the elections, GECOM seems to be in a high state of preparedness as it relates to the demarcation of boundaries, identifying the constituencies, and developing the various descriptions of the constituencies. Outstanding on GECOM's agenda is to ensure that the register of registrants is complied and promptly publicise the various constituencies and their descriptions.

## **The Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development**

The Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development is the primary Government Agency which links the various authorities with the Central Government. It facilitates, coordinates and monitors the execution and implementation of a number of projects, programmes and activities in the various local government arms/organs and ensures that these activities are in conformity with the legal framework and the policies of the Government.

### **MISSION:**

The Mission of the Local Government and Regional Development is to supervise and maintain the legal regulatory framework of the system of local and regional administration and to encourage and facilitate the socio-economic development of all the administrative regions of Guyana.

For this purpose the Ministry supports the development of local governance by building Local Government capacity and maintaining an appropriate legislative, fiscal and regulatory framework for local governance.

Our guiding principles are to promote accountability at all Local Government levels to their constituencies; promote and support a partnership between Central and Local Government and Civil Society, while maintaining a high degree of professionalism, effectiveness, efficiency and equity.

## **DIVISIONS OF THE MINISTRY:**

The Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development addresses its mission through three programmes:

**Main Office:** ensures the successful implementation of the Government plans, policies and programmes in accordance with good governance, facilitating infrastructural and human resource development in the Regions. The two Ministers, the Permanent Secretary and their Secretariat and the Special Projects Officer serve in this Division.

**Ministry Administration:** provides effective administrative and accounting services; promotes and coordinates career development within the Ministry; and supports human resource development efforts generic to Regional Democratic Council. Four Sections make up this Division, namely: (a) General Administration, (b) Personnel, (c) Registry, (d) Accounts.

**Regional Development:** monitors the growth and development of the Regions, Neighbourhood Democratic Councils and Municipalities through the promotion of good governance, facilitating infrastructure development/maintenance and training. This is achieved by the following Sections:

(a) The Local Government Section (b) The Municipal Services Division (c) The Planning and Training Section. The Chief Regional Development Officer heads this Section.

## **THE REGIONAL DEMOCRATIC COUNCIL**

The Regional Democratic Council is the supreme Local Government Organ in each region with the responsibility for the overall management and administration of the Region and the coordination of the activities of all Local Democratic Organs within its boundaries

Below is a breakdown of the Councillors of the Regional Democratic Councils:

Region	No. of Councillors
1	15
2	17
3	27
4	35
5	18
6	30
7	15
8	15
9	15
10	18

The Councillors are elected at the same time as the members of the National Assembly at Regional Elections which are held every five (5) years. The Regional Executive Officer is the Accounting Officer of the

Region and also functions as the Clerk of the Regional Democratic Council.

### **Main Functions of the Regional Democratic Councils**

1. To administer all services required within its boundaries (services such as health, education, public works etc) as set out by the laws.
2. To coordinate the activities of the Local Democratic Councils and provide such cooperation and support as required. It should be noted that the Regional Democratic Council has some power delegated to it by the Minister responsible for Local Government
3. To develop regional facilities as it deems necessary.
4. Identify economic (revenue earning) projects and assists the Administration in executing works necessary for the development of the region.

### **THE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEMOCRATIC COUNCIL**

A Neighbourhood Democratic Council covers a small geographic area within each region and is tasked with responsibility for the management and administration of these areas within its boundaries. Although the NDC's were established by an order under the Local Democratic Organs Act 12 of 1980 it was not until 1994 that they were actually implemented.

Councillors are elected at Local Government elections, which is held under the general supervision of the Guyana Election Commission. The number of Councillors elected may range from 12 to 30 depending on the size of the population of the Neighbourhood and its topography. These Councils operate under Local Government Act Chapter 28:02

The Overseer is responsible for the day to day administration of the office and assisting in the execution of the council's decisions.

The Neighbourhood Democratic Councils receive a subvention from Central Government every year to assist in the execution of developmental works within the boundaries of the NDC.

Additionally each NDC collects rates and taxes from the established revenue base, these are retained by the said Council and used to provide effective and efficient services to the residents.

**Functions of the Neighbourhood Democratic Councils:**

1. To provide efficient services for the residents as stated in the Laws. Services include sanitation, garbage disposal, road/dam maintenance, market facilities, burial grounds, abattoirs, drainage, etc.;
2. To maintain and protect public property;
3. To levy and collect rates.

**MUNICIPAL COUNCILS**

The municipalities operate under the Municipal and District Councils Act Chapter 28:01. The provision allows for a Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors, the Town Clerk is the Administrator. Each Council has the responsibility for solid waste collection and disposal, maintenance of infrastructure services (roads, bridges, etc.), market facilities, and child welfare services among others.

Like NDCs, Municipalities receive an annual subvention from the Ministry of Local Government & Regional Development. This is in accordance to budgetary allocations approved by Parliament and meant to execute developmental works. However, the collection of rates and taxes are the main source of revenue for these councils.

Below is a breakdown of the number of Councillors in each Municipality:

<i><b>Municipality</b></i>	<i><b>No. Of Councillors</b></i>
Georgetown	30
New Amsterdam	15
Corriverton	15
Rose Hall	12
Anna Regina	15
Linden	18

## **WHY PAY RATES AND TAXES?<sup>1</sup>**

For communities to experience development, both local government entity and the residents must work together. Local authorities provide a number of services to the residents within their boundaries as mandated by law. This provision has a cost attached and becomes recoverable from an individual in respect to his or her ownership of land or other property.

Properties are valued on the rate set by the Council after the completion of the valuation process. Rate payers are expected to pay their rates annually since interest is calculated on any outstanding amount. Council has the authority to levy against any defaulting rate payers to recover the amount outstanding.

The amount levied can be paid in full or in four equal installments respectively- on the publication notice in the Gazette or Newspaper and on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1<sup>st</sup> July, and 1<sup>st</sup> October during the given year. Interest would not be charged until thirty days after the due dates.

---

<sup>1</sup> Municipal & District Councils Act, Chapter 28:01; Valuation & Rating Appeal Act Chapter 28:04

## REGION # 1 - BARIMA/WAINI

Located on the North Western part of Guyana is the Barima/Waini Region. The Venezuela border, the Atlantic Ocean and the watersheds of the Cuyuni and the Moruca Rivers form its boundaries. It is divided into the: Moruca, Mabaruma and the Port Kaituma/Arakaka/Matthews Ridge Sub Districts.

The main economic activities of this region are farming (citrus fruits and ground provision), gold mining, and logging. This region boasts pristine forest and a diversity of flora and fauna and the famous stretch of shell beaches. Four species of marine turtles which nest along the beaches are officially protected species of wildlife. This region has potential for Tourism.



**This Region is inhabited mainly by Amerindians**

<b>NAME OF NDC <i>REGION 1</i></b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>COUNCIL MEMBERS</b>	<b>STATUTORY MEETING</b>	<b>LOCATION OF MEETING</b>	<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER</b>
1. Port Kaituma/Matthews Ridge/Arakaka	Port Kaituma, North West District	18	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday; Bi-monthly	NDC office	
2.Mabaruma/Kumaka/ Hosororo	Mabaruma, North West District	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	NDC office	777-5019

Regional Democratic Council  
Mabaruma North West District  
Statutory Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday –  
Bi-monthly  
Telephone: 777-5029

## **REGION 2 - POMEROON/SUPENAAM**

Lying along the Atlantic Coast of Guyana is Administrative Region # 2.

This partly coastal and interior region is bounded by the watersheds of the Pomeroon/ Supenaam and Essequibo rivers. It is inhabited by a population of over forty-three thousand.

The economic activities are based strongly on Agriculture e.g. rice, fruits, cash crops and to a lesser extent logging. This Region has five (5) Neighbourhood Democratic Councils and one Town Council. The Regional Democratic Council is located at Anna Regina.



**Region # 2 – Home to our Amerindian Brothers & Sisters**

Regional Democratic Council

Anna Regina,

Essequibo Coast

Meeting time: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 09:00 hrs

Meeting place: NDC office

Telephone: 771-4694

### Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

<b>NAME OF NDC REGION 2</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>COUNCIL MEMBERS</b>	<b>STATUTORY MEETING</b>	<b>LOCATION OF MEETING</b>	<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER</b>
1. Charity/Urasara	Charity, Pomeroon	18	4 <sup>th</sup> Friday, 09:00 hrs; Bi-monthly	NDC office	771-4694
2. Evergreen/Paradise	Dartmouth, Essequibo Coast		1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 09:00 hrs	NDC office	
3. Aberdeen/Zorg-en- Vlygt	Queenstown, Essequibo Coast	18	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday, 13:00 hrs	NDC office	
4. Annandale/Riverstown	Suddie, Essequibo Coast	18	1 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 09:00 hrs	NDC office	774-4302
5. Good Hope/Pomona	Huis t Dieren, Essequibo Coast	18	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 09:00 hrs	NDC office	774-5327

## **ANNA REGINA TOWN COUNCIL- Region # 2**

Anna Regina attained the status of township on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1970. It comprises of eighteen villages from Walton Hall in the North to Three Friends in the South. It covers an area of approximately 78.5 sq. km with the main focus on agriculture with other commercial activities are becoming evident. Anna Regina is the only township on the Essequibo Coast.

Anna Regina Town Council

Essequibo Coast

Telephone 771-4302

No. of seats in the council: 15

Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 13:00 Hrs

Meeting place: Town Council Boardroom

### **REGION # 3 - ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/ WEST DEMERARA**

Region # 3, a predominantly agriculture region is bounded mainly by the Essequibo and Demerara rivers. The islands of Leguan, Wakenaam and Hogg Island are incorporated into its boundary. This region boasts a mixture all ethnic groups. The Demerara Harbour Bridge connects this region with Region 4, where the capital city lies.

There are fourteen (14) Neighbourhood Democratic Councils throughout the Region and the Regional Office is located at Vreed-en-Hoop, West Coast Demerara.

Regional Democratic Council

Vreed-en-Hoop,

West Coast Demerara

Meeting time: 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday at 10:00 am

Meeting place: RDC Office

Telephone: 264-2261

<b>NAME OF NDC REGION 3</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>COUNCIL MEMBERS</b>	<b>STATUTORY MEETING</b>	<b>LOCATION OF MEETING</b>	<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER</b>
1. Wakenaam	Sans Succi, Wakenaam	18	4 <sup>th</sup> Wed.; 10:00 Hrs	NDC office	774-5060
2. Leguan	Leguan, Essequibo River	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday; 09:00 Hrs	NDC office	260-0710
3. Mora/Parika	Parika Marketing Centre, East Bank Essequibo	15	Last Wednesday 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	260-4569
4. Hydronie/ Good Hope	Farm, East Bank Essequibo	18	Last Tuesday; 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	
5. Greenwich Park, Vergenoegen	Vergenoegen, East Bank Essequibo	15	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday; 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	260-2199
6. Tuschen/	Kastev,	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed	NDC office	275-0355

Uitvlugt	Meten-Meer-Zorg, West Coast Demerara		15:00 Hrs		
7. Stewartville/ Cornelia Ida	Stewartville, West Coast Demerara	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday, 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	268-2388
8. Hague/Blankenburg	Den-Amstel, West Coast Demerara	18	Last Tuesday, 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	276-3015
9. La Jalousie/Nouvelle Flanders	Windsor Forest, West Coast Demerara	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday; 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	269-0011
10. Best/Klien/ Pouderoyen	Vreed-en-Hoop, West Coast Demerara	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday ; 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	264-2461
11. Malgre Tout/	Goed Fortuin,	18	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday;	NDC office	263-7324

Meer Zorgen	West Bank Demerara		15:00 Hrs		
12. La Grange/Nimes	Bagotville, West Bank Demerara	15	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday; 15:00 Hrs	NDC office	263-5558
13. Canal's Polder	Canal No. 2 Polder , West Bank Demerara	18		NDC Office	263-5708
14. Toevlugt/Potentia	Good Intent, West Bank Demerara	18	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday; 17:30 Hrs	NDC office	263-7091

## **REGION # 4 - DEMERARA/MAHAICA**



### **Region # 4 - Home to the Guyana National Stadium**

This region boasts a vast section of all the ethnic groups of Guyana. Almost half of the country's population lives in this region. It is bounded by the Demerara and Mahaica Rivers in its western and eastern extremities respectively.

Georgetown, the capital city, where most of the population lives, is located in this Region. The city is administered by the Municipal Council and economic activities are centered on commercial, manufacturing and value added production.

In the remaining part of the region, farming of cash crops and a variety of fruits and rice cultivation is done. There are fifteen (15) Neighbourhood Council located in this Region. The Regional Administrative Office is located at Triumph Village, East Coast Demerara.



### **Mashramini Celebrations in Georgetown**

Regional Democratic Council

Triumph Village,

East Coast Demerara

Meeting time: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 13:00 Hrs

Meeting place: RDC Boardroom

Telephone: 220-8912

<b>NAME OF NDC REGION 4</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>COUNCIL MEMBERS</b>	<b>STATUTORY MEETING</b>	<b>LOCATION OF MEETING</b>	<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER</b>
1. Soesdyke/Huist' Coverden NDC	Soesdyke, East Bank Demerara	18	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday , 15:00 Hrs	NDC office	261-5224
2. Caledonia/ Good Success	Craig, East Bank Demerara	18	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday, 09:00 Hrs	NDC office	266-2239
3. Little Diamond/ Herstelling	49 Little Diamond, East Bank Demerara	18	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday , 09:00	NDC office	265-2333
4. Golden Grove/ Diamond Place	Grove Housing Scheme, East Bank Demerara	18	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 15:00 Hrs	NDC office	265-2256
5. Mocha/Arcadia	Moca village, East Bank	18	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday,	NDC office	263-6176

	Demerara		09:00 Hrs		
6. Ramsburg/Eccles	Peter's Hall, East Bank Demerara	18	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday, 17:00 Hrs	NDC office	233-5515
7. Industry/Plaisance	Plaisance, East Bank Demerara	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 15:00 Hrs	NDC office	220-2326
8. Better Hope/ LBI	Better Hope, East Coast Demerara	18	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday , 15:30 Hrs	NDC office	220-8899
9. Beterverwagting/ Triumph	Triumph, East Coast Demerara	18	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 15:00 Hrs	NDC office	220-2306
10. Man Repos/ La Reconnaissance	Lusignan, East Coast Demerara	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 17:30 Hrs	NDC office	220-8110
11. Buxton/Foulis	Buxton, East Coast	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday,	NDC office	220-8849

	Demerara		14:00 Hrs		
12. Enmore/Hope	Enmore, East Coast Demerara	18	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 17:30 Hrs	NDC office	256-3533
13. Haslington/Grove	Nabaclis, East Coast Demerara	18	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday, 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	256-2226
14. Unity/Vereeniging	Belmonte, Mahaica	18	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday, 16:00 Hrs	NDC office	228-5329
15. Cane Grove	Cane Grove, East Coast Demerara	18	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 13:30 Hrs	NDC office	257-0059

## Georgetown City Council

Georgetown, the capital city, was founded over 200 years ago under the Europeans during colonialism. Its boundaries extend from Cummings Lodge on the East Coast Demerara to Agricola on the East Bank Demerara. It is divided into 77 wards and communities and boasts a multi-racial and multi-religious population. Being the capital of Guyana, it is the main commercial centre and currently the country's principal port.



**City Hall**

Georgetown City Council

Avenue of the Republic,

Georgetown

Meeting place: City Hall

Telephone: 226 4061

Fax: 227-1050

## **REGION 5 - MAHAICA/BERBICE**

This region extends from the Eastern Bank of the Mahaica River to the western bank of the Berbice River. Rice, sugar, vegetables cultivation and cattle rearing constitute the major economic activities.

Region 5 has ten (10) Neighbourhood Democratic Council and one Amerindian Council. The Regional Democratic Council is located at Forth Wellington, West Coast Berbice.



**Rice Cultivation in Region # 5**

Regional Democratic Council

Forth Wellington,

West Coast Berbice

Meeting time: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 10:00 Hrs

Meeting place: RDC office

Telephone: 232-0292

<b>NAME OF NDC REGION 5</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>COUNCIL MEMBERS</b>	<b>STATUTORY MEETING</b>	<b>LOCATION OF MEETING</b>	<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER</b>
1. Woodlands/Farm	Zeskenderen, Mahaicony, East Coast Demerara	18	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 15:00 Hrs	NDC office	221-2237
2. Hamlet/Chance	Perth Village, East Coast Demerara	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 16:00 Hrs	NDC office	
3. Mahaicony/Abary	Dundee, Mahaicony East Coast Demerara	18	Last Wednesday 15:00 Hrs	NDC office	221-2846
4. Profit/Rising Sun	Belladrum, West Coast Berbice	18	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 11:00 Hrs	NDC office	

5. Seafield/Tempie	Litchfeild Village, West Coast Demerara	18	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 10:00 Hrs	NDC office	328-2142
6. Union/ Naarstigheid	Bush Lot, West Coast Berbice	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday, 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	232-0045
7. Bath/Woodley Park	Woodly Park, West Coast Berbice	18	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 14:00 Hrs	NDC office	328-7395
8. Woodlands/ Bel Air	No. 8, West Coast Berbice	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	
9. Zeelugt / Rosignol	Rosignol, West Coast Berbice.	18	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday, 11:00 Hrs	NDC office	330-2423
10. Blairmont/Gelderland	No. 2 Settlement Blairmont, West Coast, Bce	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 15:30 Hrs	NDC office	327 - 0558

## **REGION 6 - EAST BERBICE / CORENTYNE**



**The Berbice River Bridge**

This is a very extensive Region which occupies the long strip of land along the eastern side of Guyana. It spans from the Atlantic Ocean in the North to the Southern border of Brazil. Agriculture forms the major economic base of the Region, with sugar and rice as its main crops. Region Six (6) possesses great potential for development with the establishment of the Suriname Ferry Stelling.

This Region has fifteen Neighbourhood Democratic Councils and three (3) scattered throughout the coastal section where most of the population reside. Orella, the only Amerindian Council is located along the Corentyne River. The Administrative Centre is at Vryman's Erving, New Amsterdam, Berbice.



### **The popular No. 63 Beach**

Regional Democratic Council

Vryman's Erven,

New Amsterdam

Meeting time: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 09:00 Hrs

Meeting place: RDC office

Telephone: 333-3120

<b>NAME OF NDC REGION 6</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>COUNCIL MEMBERS</b>	<b>STATUTORY MEETING</b>	<b>LOCATION OF MEETING</b>	<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER</b>
1.Enfield/ New Doe Park	Sisters, East Bank Berbice	18	4th Wednesday 14:00 Hrs	NDC office	333-5636
2. Ordinance/ Fort Lands	Cumberland, Canje, Berbice	18	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	327-7205
3.Canefield/ Enterprise	Canefield, East Canje Berbice	18	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 16:00 Hrs	NDC office	326-0575
4. Kintyre/ No.37	Bohemia, Corentyne, Berbice	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	NDC office	
5. Gibraltar/Fyrish	Fyrish, Corentyne	18	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday, 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	322-0300

6. Kilcoy/Hampshire	Albion, Corentyne	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	322-3147
7. Port Mourant/ John	Port Mourant, Corentyne	18	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday, 09:30 Hrs	NDC office	336-6236
8. Bloomfield/Whim	Bloomfield/Whim	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	337-2619
9. Lancaster/ Hogstye	Alness, Corentyne	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 14:00 Hrs	NDC office	331-0187
10. Black Bush Polder	Mibicuri, Black, Bush Polder	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday, 08:30 Hrs	NDC office	
11. Good Hope/ No.51	No. 47 Village, Corentyne	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 09:30 Hrs	NDC office	339-4318
12. Macedonia/Joppa	Eversham, Corentyne	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 14:00 Hrs	NDC office	
13. Adventure/ No. 28	Kildonan,	18	Last	NDC	

	Corentyne		Tuesday, 09:00 Hrs	office	
14. Maida/Tarlogie	Tarlogie, Corentyne	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	333-2998
15. No. 52/ No. 74	No. 54, Corentyne	18	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	339-4010
16. Crabwood Creek/ Molsen Creek	Crabwood Creek, Corentyne	18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 13:00 Hrs	NDC office	339-2330

## **NEW AMSTERDAM TOWN COUNCIL**

The township of New Amsterdam was established in 1791 by the Dutch and is fondly known as the 'Ancient Town'. It occupies an area of approximately 13.7 Sq. Km with an estimated population of 35,000 residents.

Although the town was expanded to include neighbouring communities, it maintained much of its old architecture and boasts some of the oldest Churches in Guyana.



**Town Hall 1950**

New Amsterdam Town Council

Town of New Amsterdam

Berbice

Meeting time: Last Monday, 14:00 Hrs

Meeting place: Town Hall

Telephone: 333-2667

## ROSE HALL TOWN COUNCIL

Rose Hall is the smallest of Guyana's six towns and is located on the northern Coastal Plain at the centre of the Berbice district.

Historically, this township was a communal village and on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 1970 it was declared a town. It is divided into three wards: Middle Rose Hall, East Rose Hall and Williamsburg.

Located at the back of this township are beautiful beaches that have potential for tourism.

Rose Hall Town Council

Rose Hall,

Berbice

Meeting time: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 14:00 Hrs

Meeting place: Town Council office

Telephone: 337-4882

## **CORRIVERTON TOWN COUNCIL**

Corriverton is the township farthest to East of Guyana. It is a narrow Coastal strip on the Corentyne River at the mouth and between No. 74 Village on the North and Crabwood Creek on the South. It was upgraded to Township status on September 7<sup>th</sup>, 1970 under the Municipal District Council Act 28:01. It is divided into wards and has a population of about 40,000 residents.

Owing to its proximity to Suriname, its economic activities are centered on commercial trade in a number of industries.

Corriverton Town Council

Corentyne,

Berbice

Meeting time: 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 14:00 Hrs

Telephone: 339-2250

## **REGION 7 - CUYUNI/ MAZURUNI**

The border of this Administrative Region extends from the Essequibo Rivers at the junction of the Cuyuni and Mazuruni Rivers, then westward to the Venezuelan border. The terrain could be considered to be mountainous with the exception of the Northern part. It can be divided into three areas: Upper Mazaruni, Kartabo Triangle and the Bartica Triangle. Agriculture, including crops like ground provision, peanuts, cash crops, gold and diamond exploration as well as quarrying are the main economic activities.

The population is mainly Amerindians with a mixture of other ethnic groups. The Regional Democratic Council and the Neighbourhood Democratic Council are located in Bartica.



**Arial View of Bartica – Administrative Centre Region # 7**

Regional Democratic Council

Bartica,

Essequibo River

Meeting time: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday (Bi-monthly), 19:00 Hrs

Meeting place: RDC office

Telephone: 455-2251

Fax: 455-2316

Bartica NDC

1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Bartica

Essequibo River

No. of seats in council: 18

Meeting time: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 10:00 Hrs

Meeting place: NDC office

Telephone: 455-2229

## **REGION 8 - POTARO/SIPARUNI**

This picturesque region is situated in the mid-western section of the country with the Ireng River separating it from Brazil in the West and the Essequibo River forming its Eastern boundary. This sparsely populated region is inhabited mostly by Amerindians and is the only Administrative Region without a Neighbourhood Democratic Council. It is administered by two centres – Kato and Mahdia.

Forestry, quarrying, gold, diamond and semi-precious stone exploration forms the main economic backbone of the region. The Iwokrama Rain Forest Reserve and the Kaieteur National Park are conservation sites which provide habitation for wildlife and the numerous flora species.

This region has great tourism potential with its main waterfalls and exotic scenery.



**The Mighty Kaieteur Falls - 741 feet/226 meters**



**One of the many mountain ranges of Region # 8**

Regional Democratic Council

Mahdia,

Potaro

Meeting time: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday (Quarterly)

Telephone: 225-8655 (for radio messages)

## REGION 9 - UPPER TAKATU/ UPPER ESSEQUIBO



### **Takatu Bridge linking Guyana and Brazil**

Region Nine, the largest Administrative Region is located in the Southern part of Guyana with Brazil forming Southern and Northern boundaries and **the Siparuni River the Northern.**

The cool waters of the Takutu River flows along the border that separates Guyana and Brazil. Although there are many mountains and hills in this area, it is mostly Savannah lands. The Kanuku Mountain Range bisects the rolling Savannahs into North and South.

Its population comprises of a small number of coastlanders and three major Amerindian tribes: the Macushi, Wapishana and Wai-Wai.

Cattle rearing, subsistence farming and natural resource exploration are all types of economic activities of this region. Region Nine (9) possesses a unique and diverse fauna population. The Administrative Centre is based at Lethem.



### **Pakaraima Mountain Safari**

Regional Democratic Council

Lethem,

Rupununi.

Meeting place: RDC office

Telephone: 772-2021

IRENG/ SAWARIWAU NDC

No. of seats in council: 12

Meeting time: 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday, 09:00 Hrs

Meeting place: Lethem

Telephone: 772-2028

## **REGION 10 - UPPER DEMERARA/ UPPER BERBICE**

This is the most unique of the ten Administrative Regions because it encompasses the three main rivers: Essequibo, Demerara and Berbice. It constitutes the mining town of Linden where bauxite is mined. The terrain is mainly hilly and clay sands, forested along the riverain areas and Savannah lands.

Apart from bauxite, other activities include farming, timber extraction and cattle rearing in the intermediate Savannah. The Administrative Centre is located in Linden.

### **Regional Democratic Council**

9 Avenue of the Republic,

Linden,

Upper Demerara.

Meeting time: Last Thursday, 10:00 Hrs

Meeting place: RDC office

Telephone: 444-6775

Fax: 444-2135

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD DEMOCRATIC COUNCIL**

### **KWAKWANI NDC**

Kwakwani,

Berbice River

No. of seats in council: 18

Meeting time: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 17:30 Hrs

Meeting place: NDC office

## LINDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Linden Town Council is the only urban settlement that is not located on the country's Coastal Plain and is usually referred to as 'the gateway to Guyana's interior. It is found approximately 107 km up the Demerara River and consists of the settlements of Wismar and McKenzie. Linden boasts a population of approximately 35,000 residents.

Its main economic activity is bauxite mining; other economic activities include saw milling, logging, agriculture and commerce.



Linden Town Council

Mackenzie, Linden

Meeting place: Last Wednesday; 14:00 Hrs

Telephone: 444-4010

Fax: 444-6303

**MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT & REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Regional Chairman</b>	<b>Regional Vice-Chairman</b>	<b>Regional Executive Officer</b>	<b>Deputy Regional Executive Officer</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Paul E. Pierre</b> <b>Tele: 777-5029</b> <b>Fax: 777-5116</b> <b>Cell: 669-6942</b> <b>Home: Nil</b>	<b>Fermin Singh</b> <b>Fax: 777-5029</b> <b>Cell: 691-6647</b> <b>Home: 777-5133</b>	<b>Nigel Fisher</b> <b>Tele: 777-5011</b> <b>Fax: 777-5146</b> <b>Cell: 691-3098</b>	<b>Mohamed Arjoon</b> <b>Tele:</b> <b>Fax:</b> <b>Cell: 678-6985</b> <b>Home: 777-5026</b>	<b>R.D.C Office,</b> <b>Mabaruma, North</b> <b>West District</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Parmanand</b> <b>Persaud</b> <b>Tele: 771-4325</b> <b>Fax: 771-4324</b>	<b>Vishnu Samaroo</b> <b>Tele: 771-4281</b> <b>Cell: 624-4416</b>	<b>Sunil Singh</b> <b>Tele: 771-4232</b> <b>Fax: 771-4269</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>R.D.C Office, Anna</b> <b>Regina, Essequibo</b> <b>Coast</b>

	<b>Cell: 644-2028</b>  <b>699-5204</b>  <b>Home: 71-4896</b>	<b>Home: 771-4053</b>	<b>Cell: 680-0950</b>  <b>671-4159</b>  <b>Home: 771-4493</b>		
<b>3</b>	<b>Julius Faeber</b>  <b>Tele: 264-2437</b>  <b>Fax: 264-3040</b>  <b>Cell: 640-4084</b>	<b>Azam Mohamed</b>  <b>Tele: 264-2330</b>  <b>Fax: 264-3040</b>  <b>Cell: 609-1583</b>  <b>Home: 277-0575</b>	<b>Donald Gajraj</b>  <b>Tele: 264-2261</b>  <b>Fax: 264-2261</b>  <b>Cell: 699-1947</b>  <b>Home: 227-2630</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>R.D.C Office,</b> <b>Vreed-en-Hoop,</b> <b>West Coast</b> <b>Demerara</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Clement Corlette</b>  <b>Tele: 220-8917</b>  <b>Fax: 220-7733</b>  <b>Cell: 626-0632</b>	<b>Genevieve Allen</b>  <b>Tele: 261-2241</b>  <b>Cell: 690-7679</b>  <b>Home:</b>	<b>Deolall Roopall</b>  <b>Tele: 220-8912</b>  <b>Fax: 220-7733</b>  <b>Cell: 615-2661</b>	<b>Adepemo Peters</b>  <b>Tele: 220-8923</b>  <b>Fax: 220-7733</b>  <b>Cell: 646-0336</b>	<b>R.D.C Office,</b> <b>Paradise, East</b> <b>Coast Demerara</b>

	<b>Home: 220-3714</b>		<b>Home:</b>	<b>Home: 216-1212</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Bindrabhan Bisnauth</b>  <b>Tele: 232-0308</b>  <b>Fax: 232-0308</b>  <b>Cell: 600-4562</b>  <b>Home:</b>	<b>Rion Peters</b>  <b>Tele: 232-0306</b>  <b>Cell: 614-0079</b>  <b>Home:</b>	<b>Ashford Ambedkar</b>  <b>Tele: 232-0292</b>  <b>Fax: 232-0293</b>  <b>Cell: 697-5593</b>  <b>Home: 264-2490</b>	<b>Govind Singh</b>  <b>Tele: 232-0305</b>  <b>Fax: 232-0293</b>  <b>Cell: 610-2170</b>  <b>Home: 656-9155</b>  <b>626-0616</b>	<b>R.D.C Office, Fort Wellington, West Coast Berbice</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Permaul Armoogan</b>  <b>Tele: 333-3761</b>  <b>Fax: 333-5459</b>  <b>Cell: 623-6797</b>	<b>Bhudal Jhagroo</b>  <b>Tele:</b>  <b>Fax: 333-5198</b>  <b>Cell: 650-1064</b>	<b>Paul Ramrattan</b>  <b>Tele: 333-3120</b>  <b>Fax: 333-5198</b>  <b>Cell: 649-9177</b>	<b>Bhadase Poonai</b>  <b>Tele: 333-2711</b>  <b>Fax: 333-5198</b>  <b>Cell: 640-6395</b>	<b>R.D.C Office, Vryman Erven, New Amsterdam, Berbice</b>

	<b>Home: 333-2320</b>	<b>Home:</b>	<b>Home: 253-3334</b>	<b>Home: 333-2803</b>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Gordon Bradford</b> <b>Tele: 455-2224</b> <b>Fax: 455-2316</b> <b>Cell: 602-1029</b> <b>Home: 455-3125</b>	<b>Amerita Thomas</b> <b>Cell:</b> <b>Radio Contact</b> <b>225-4613</b>	<b>Peter Ramotar</b> <b>Tele: 455-2251</b> <b>Fax: 455-2272</b> <b>Cell: 624-8414</b> <b>Home: 455-2228</b> <b>233-2508</b>	<b>Deryck Persaud</b> <b>Tele: 455-0262</b> <b>Cell: 678-3841</b> <b>Fax: 455-2272</b> <b>Home: 455-0229</b>	<b>R.D.C Office,</b> <b>Bartica, Essequibo</b> <b>River</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Mark Crawford</b> <b>Cell: 686-6586</b> <b>627-0616</b>	<b>Cornel Edwards</b> <b>Tele: 614-9706</b> <b>Home:</b>	<b>Ronald Harsawack</b> <b>Cell: 621-8751</b> <b>Home: 225-2091</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>R.D.C. Office, 111</b> <b>Miles, Mahdia,</b> <b>Potaro</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Wilson Lorentio</b> <b>Tele: 772-2018</b>	<b>Douglas</b> <b>Casimero</b>	<b>Claire Singh</b> <b>Tele: 772-2021</b>	<b>Tikiram Bissessar</b> <b>Tele: 772-2222</b>	<b>R.D.C. Office</b> <b>Lethem, Rupununi</b>

	<b>Fax: 772-2018</b> <b>Cell: 682-4106</b> <b>616-9195</b> <b>Home: Nil</b>	<b>Tele: 772-2023</b> <b>Fax:772-2018</b> <b>Cell: 679-0921</b> <b>Home: Nil</b>	<b>Fax: 772-2021</b> <b>Cell: 612-1352</b> <b>Home: 772-2170</b>	<b>Fax: 772-2021</b> <b>Cell: 647-0074</b> <b>Home: 772-2067</b>	
<b>10</b>	<b>Sharma Solomon</b> <b>Tele: 444-6121</b> <b>Fax: 444-6296</b> <b>Cell: 614-4428</b> <b>Home:</b>	<b>Bryon Lewis</b> <b>Tele: 444-6121</b> <b>Fax: 444-6269</b> <b>Cell: 675-9515</b> <b>Home: 440-2201</b>	<b>Yolanda Hilliman</b> <b>Tele: 444-6056</b> <b>Fax: 444-6775</b> <b>Cell: 626-4630</b> <b>Home: 444-3518</b>	<b>Maylene Stephen</b> <b>Tele: 444-6707</b> <b>Fax: 444-6775</b> <b>Cell: 642-7209</b> <b>Home: 442-3656</b>	<b>R.D.C Office</b> <b>Avenue of the</b> <b>Republic, Linden,</b> <b>Upper Demerara</b> <b>River</b>

## *The National Pledge*

I pledge myself to honor always the Flag of Guyana,  
and to be loyal to my country,  
to be obedient to the laws of Guyana,  
to love my fellow citizens,  
and to dedicate my energies towards  
the happiness and prosperity of Guyana.

---

## *The National Anthem*

Dear land of Guyana, of rivers and plains,  
Made rich by the sunshine, and lush by the rains.  
Set gem-like and fair, between mountains and sea,  
Your children salute you, dear land of the free.

Green land of Guyana, our heroes of yore,  
Both bondsmen and free, laid their bones on your shore.  
This soil so they hallowed, and from them are we,  
All sons of one mother, Guyana the free.

Great land of Guyana, diverse though our strains,  
We are born of their sacrifice, heirs of their pains.  
And ours is the glory their eyes did not see,  
One land of six peoples, united and free.

Dear land of Guyana, to you will we give,  
Our homage, our service, each day that we live.  
God guard you, Great Mother, and make us to be  
More worthy our heritage, land of the free.



### **Guyana's National Flag**

**Green** represents agriculture and forests **White** represents the rivers and the water

**Gold** represents the mineral wealth

**Black** represents endurance

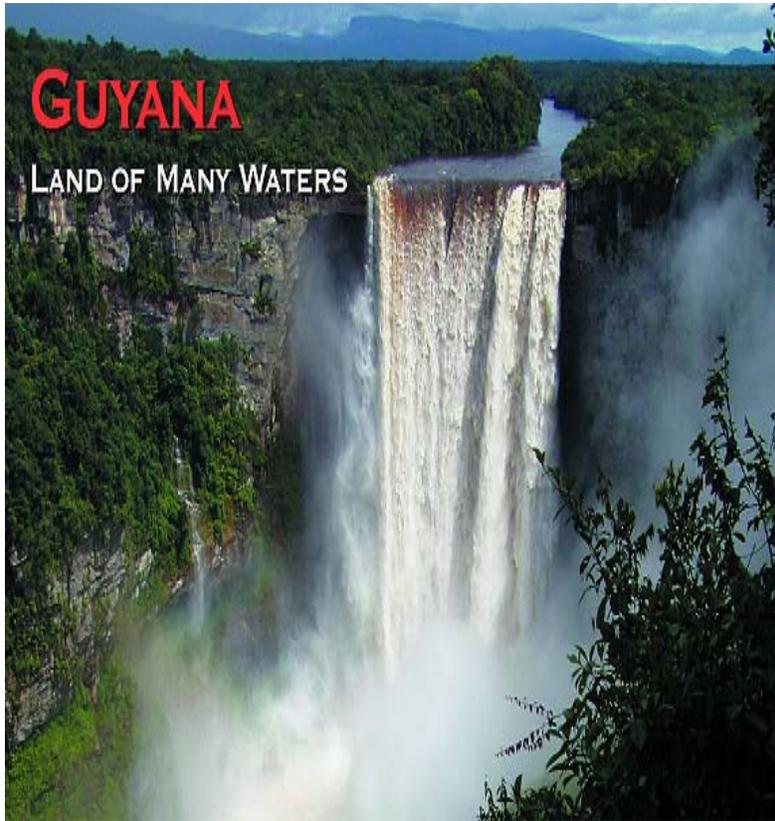
**Red** represents the young and independent country

## Coat of Arms

### ONE PEOPLE, ONE NATION, ONE DESTINY...

The design consists of an Amerindian head-dress symbolizing the indigenous people of the country, two diamonds at the sides of the head-dress representing mining industry, a helmet (monarchical insignia), two jaguars holding a pick axe, sugar cane and a stalk of rice (symbolizing Guyana's sugar and rice industries), a shield decorated with the National Flower (Victoria Regia Lily), three blue wavy lines representing the waters of Guyana and the National Bird (Canje Pheasant).





**Issued by:**

**Ministry of Local Government & Regional Development**

**De Winkle Building, Fort Street**

**Kingston, Georgetown**

**Guyana**

**Reprinted April, 2012**