

Proudly the largest weekly Caribbean Newspaper in Canada for 45 years

Equality

MAINTAINING THE PERFECT BALANCE **\$1.00**

SERVING, CARIBBEAN, EAST ASIANS, GUYANESE, JAMAICANS, TRINIS AND MORE. 416 759 6397



Vettyvel Law
Professional Corporation
2225 Markham Road -Suite 203
Scarborough on. M1B 0E6

- Real Estate Law (Residential & Commercial)
- Wills & Estates
- Corporate & Commercial Law

Rishani Vettyvel, BBA, LLB, LLM
Barrister & Solicitor
Direct 416 261 1544 Fax. 416 291 1544
rishani@vetyvel.com



IMMIGRATION, LEGAL & ACCOUNTING SERVICES



- Express Entry; PNPs
- Family Sponsorships
- Super Visa; Visitor's Visa
- H&C; PRRA
- RAD, IAD Appeals
- Asylum Claims
- Entrepreneur and Investor Streams
- Procedural Fairness Responses

Notary Public; Oath Commissioner

- Small Claims Court
- Landlord & Tenant Board
- Traffic Tickets Defence
- Human Rights Commission

19, 695 Markham Road, Scarborough, ON, M1H2A5

Ph: 6478712444 info@javedlegal.ca

For Accounting please contact: Behroz: 437- 410-7999

Thursday May 7 2026. Volume 48, Issue #17 www.equalitynews.ca. For advertising, call 647-216-2359



PM visits wounded soldier

Prime Minister Brigadier (ret'd) Mark Phillips reaffirmed government's support for all ranks of the Guyana Defence Force (GDF) while visiting the soldier who was wounded in an ambush during a GDF boat patrol along Guyana's Western border with Venezuela in Region Seven.

Lance Corporal Douglas and other ranks were on GDF patrol duties escorting three civilian boats transporting personnel and cargo from Makapa to Eteringbang when they came under fire in the vicinity of Black Water.

The patrol returned fire and safely manoeuvred the convoy out of the area but Lance Corporal Douglas was hit. Another rank narrowly escaped being injured.

Reports state that Monday's shoot-out was the second major one within the last two weeks. Some said that the shootings sometimes occur daily, making the Cuyuni River one of the most dangerous areas to traverse.



Ali gets Visionary Leader Award in Houston

Guyana President Dr Irfaan Ali was, on Sunday evening, conferred with the Visionary Leadership Award by the Bilateral Chamber in Houston, Texas, in recognition of his steadfast leadership and transformative vision for Guyana's economic development.

The ceremony was held in Houston on the sidelines of the 2026 Offshore Technology Conference (OTC), where President Ali delivered the historic opening keynote address as Guyana takes centre stage at the major offshore energy forum. The accolade, according to information from the Office of the President, highlights his role in advancing responsible energy growth, deepening regional partnerships, and steering policies aimed at long-term, sustainable national progress at a time when Guyana is assuming greater prominence on the global energy stage.

Dr Ali, meanwhile, will be in Toronto to meet with the Diaspora on May 9 at the Pearson Convention Centre, 2638 Steeles Avenue West, from 9 - 11 a.m, which is being hosted by the Guyana Consulate.

L.R. IMMIGRATION CONSULTING INC.
Specializing in all areas of Canadian Immigration

- Express entry
- Work permits, LMIA
- Humanitarian and Refugee
- Appeals & Admissibility
- Deportation & Detention
- Loss of Residence Status
- Misrepresentations
- Sponsorships, Spousal & family class, supervise, TRPs

Lisa Ramkissoon, RCIC Member of ICCRC
1058A Albion Rd., Etobicoke ON
416-749-5559

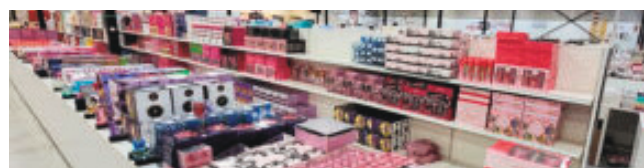


Equality welcomes

Lisa's Cosmetics

Grand Warehouse Sale

on Page 31 Check out their ad for the best deals on cosmetics in the city!



SHARMA LAW

Catastrophic injury? Car accident?
Slip & fall? Income disability
benefits denied?

sharma@vsharmalaw.ca
vsharmalaw.ca



HURT?
CALL VISHAL'S
DIRECT LINE
647-972-4440



Naraine's Bakery
Top Guns For Tasty Buns

**PROUDLY CELEBRATING 34 YEARS
IN BUSINESS: 1992-2026**

Thank You For Your Patronage Over The Past 34 Years

GET THE BEST TASTE OF GUYANA RIGHT HERE IN TORONTO. ALWAYS FRESH. LOOK FOR THE LABEL!

**FOR THE FINEST IN BREAD, TENNIS ROLLS, SALARA, WHOLE WHEAT,
AND PASTRIES HOT, FRESH, & ALWAYS DELICIOUS PRODUCTS**

WEST TORONTO
Caribbean Island
Food Market
3432 Weston Road,
Toronto M9M 2W1
(Finch & Weston Rd)
416-746-1592

MAIN BRANCH/OUTLET
2691 Markham Road, Unit 11
Toronto, Ontario M1X 1L4
416-298-6611

BRAMPTON
Jas Supermarket
Brampton,
ON L6S 3L2
905-497-9025

Available At Select NoFrills

At Most West Indian Supermarkets

Available At Most West Indian Stores & Select NoFrills

RUDY LOCHAN

Providing solutions to your real estate and mortgage needs in Canada and Guyana.



Scan for market updates, tips & all my links!



Agent #: M08000596
Brokerage #: 10414

Explore your options today!

416-830-1510

rudyllochan@gmail.com

Where Comfort Meets Quality

- Sleep Better Tonight

**#1 IN GUYANA
FOR MATTRESSES**



Foam Mattress



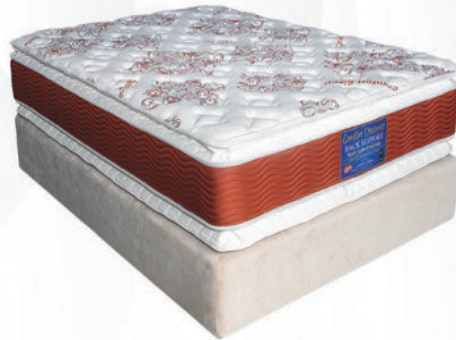
Pink Foam Sheets



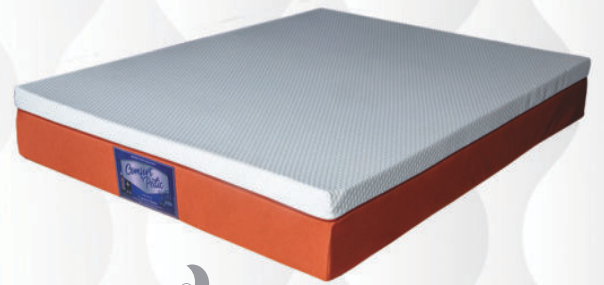
Comfort Night Magic



Super Comfort Quilted



Comfort Dreamer Back Support



Memory Foam



Comfort Custom Euro Top



Comfort Custom Luxury



Comfort Classic Delux



CS
Comfort Sleep Inc.
Sleep on ... Dream on...



49 Eccles Industrial Estate, East Bank Demerara, Guyana, South America

(+592) 233-3013/ 233-2657/ 233-3024 +592-618-1078 sales@comfortsleep.gy OR info@comfortsleep.gy

https://www.com/ComfortSleepGY https://comfortsleep.gy

CARICOM reaffirms “unequivocal support”

THE Caribbean Community (CARICOM) has issued a firm statement cautioning against the use of regional engagements to advance Venezuela’s claim to Guyana’s Essequibo region, reinforcing its longstanding support for Guyana’s sovereignty.

In a statement dated April 28, 2026, the regional body acknowledged recent engagements within CARICOM where material asserting Venezuela’s claim was publicly displayed, while also noting correspondence



Caricom headquarters in Guyana

from President Irfaan Ali raising “grave concern” over the development.

CARICOM made it clear that while member

states retain the sovereign right to conduct bilateral relations, those engagements must align with the Community’s legal and diplomatic obligations under the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas.

“At the centre of those commitments stands the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas... [which] commits Members to the preservation of the Community’s integrity and cohesion in their external relations,” the statement outlined. Critically, the regional bloc drew a red line on the use of its platforms in the ongoing border controversy, which is currently before the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

“Community platforms and engagements should not be used, whether directly or indirectly, to advance or appear to legitimise claims that are the subject of ongoing judicial proceedings before the International Court of Justice,” CARICOM stated.

The organisation reiterated that its position on the matter remains unchanged, underscoring full backing for Guyana’s territorial integrity and the judicial process as the legitimate pathway to resolution.

“The Community’s longstanding and unequivocal support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana... remains firm and unchanged.”



REDDY'S PHYSIO REHAB INC

Proudly Serving the Community Since 2004

416-285-1455

We are Specialists in treating Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) Injuries

We also treat

- Frozen Shoulder Syndrome
- Soft Tissue Injuries (Sprains, Strains, Headache/Migrane, Neck, Back, Knee, Ankle, Wrist, Elbow Pain etc.)
- Depression, Anxiety, Stress etc.

Email: redlyphysio@gmail.com



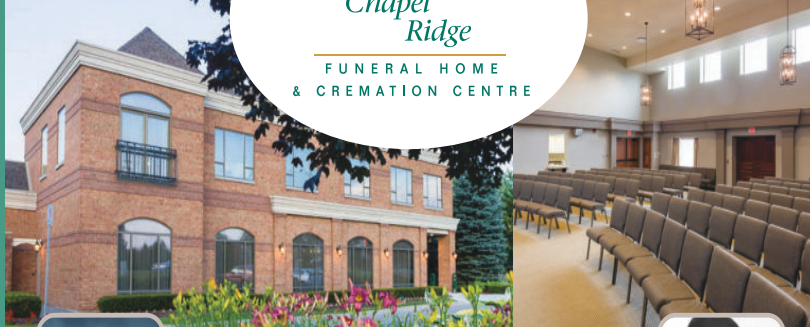
હવે પ્રાથના હોલ અને સ્મશાન ઘર એકજ સ્થળે

Chapel Ridge

Funeral Home & Cremation Centre

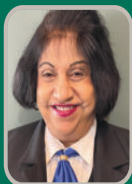


in partnership with



Vilo
Licensed Funeral Director
(416) 993-0826

Harjinder
Licensed Funeral Director
(647) 966-0093



Christeen
Licensed Funeral Director
(416) 258-6759

Kirti
Licensed Funeral Preplanner
(416) 417-0182



Complete Funeral Package Pricing \$4395.00

Includes HST

- **GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICE.**
- Same Day Funeral Service with 1 hour visitation prior to service, including all professional fees and preparation
- Batesville Grey Doeskin Casket
- Cremation and Witnessing Fee at North Toronto Crematorium or St John's Dixie Crematorium in Mississauga
- Coroner, Death Registration and BAO Fee

Not included: Flowers, Limousines, Clergy or Musician Fees, Urns

Facilities
also available in
Mississauga



Everything in one Place!



2 Stalwart Industrial Drive, Gormley
(close to Highway 404 and Stouffville Road)

Newly built large Chapel with Crematorium on-site - everything in one place!

8911 Woodbine Ave., Markham (4 blocks north of Hwy 7)
info@chapelridgefh.com • www.chapelridgefh.com

905-305-8508

info@northtorontocrematorium.com
www.northtorontocrematorium.com

289-578-1288

Guyana exploring mass transit system to complement road network

PRESIDENT Dr. Irfaan Ali has signalled a major shift in the country's transportation strategy, stating that the government is actively examining the development of a modern mass transit system to complement the rapidly expanding road network.

The Head of State made this known at a recent commissioning event during which he said that while significant investments are being made in highways and road infrastructure, a growing economy will require more efficient ways to move people.

"But while we are building roads to meet existing demand, and to prepare for future growth, we also recognise that roads alone cannot carry the full burden of a modern and expanding nation," he said.

President Ali explained that the government is looking at a more integrated approach to transportation, aimed at improving daily commuting, reducing congestion, and increasing overall efficiency.

"That is why our plans go beyond highways and bridges. We are actively examining the development of an integrated mass transit system that will complement our road networks, reduce congestion, lower travel time, and improve the daily lives of citizens," he said.

Among the options under consideration are a light rail system for high-density corridors, expanded bus services, and new routing strategies to ease pressure on existing roadways.

"This is why we're giving serious consideration to options such as light rail systems for high-density corridors... and larger modern buses for longer distance services, including routes to rural and hinterland communities," the President said.

Against this backdrop, he stated that such initiatives form part of a



broader vision to modernise Guyana's transport sector in line with its rapid economic growth and urban expansion.

"The future of transport is not only about moving vehicles, it is about moving people," President Ali said while adding that an effective system must be safe, affordable and accessible.

According to Dr. Ali, the proposed mass transit system would work alongside existing and planned road infrastructure, creating a more balanced and efficient network. "Our vision is clear: A Guyana where roads, public transit and smart planning work together in har-

mony, because the best transport network is one that gives people choices, saves them time, and connects every citizen to opportunity," he said.

The government continues to roll out an aggressive infrastructure programme across the country, with billions being invested in highways, bridges, and road expansion projects aimed at improving connectivity and supporting economic development.

However, the president acknowledged that while road construction has brought temporary inconveniences for commuters, these challenges are part of

a broader transformation.

"We ask for your patience because patience today will produce prosperity tomorrow... the traffic you endure today will become the travel you enjoy tomorrow," he said.

As Guyana's population grows and vehicle ownership increases, the President stressed that forward planning will be essential to avoid future congestion and inefficiencies. He stated that the move toward mass transit represents a proactive step in ensuring that the country's transport system keeps pace with development.

Guyana moving to crackdown on fake lawyers

ATTORNEY General Anil Nandlall has said that the government is moving to strengthen laws to crack down on individuals masquerading as lawyers and operating illegal legal services across the country.

The AG made this known while speaking on his weekly programme Issues in the News, during which he said the proposed reforms to the Legal Practitioners Act are aimed at tackling

widespread abuse within the sector, including persons who are not qualified or authorised to provide legal services.

"We have dozens of persons who are pretending to be lawyers, masquerading as lawyers... and they are not qualified to do so, they are not certified to do so, they are not competent to do so," he said.

The Attorney General warned that such practices are causing serious

harm to members of the public.

"People lose their properties, people lose millions of dollars, people can lose their liberty," he said while adding that the situation has resulted in great and grave injustices.

He noted that in some instances, individuals are openly advertising legal services despite not being legally permitted to do so. "I drive around this country and you see signboards with the legal services that these persons offer," he said.

Against this backdrop, Nandlall also raised concerns about Justices of the Peace and Commissioners of Oaths who, he said, are exceeding their legal authority by offering and promoting legal services for financial gain.

"They are not intended for you to go out there and convert that into a money-making machine," he said.

He further noted that there appear to be instances where lawyers are collaborating with unqualified persons in illegal arrangements.

"I am aware also that lawyers are acting in conspiracy with them... this is racketeering," he said.

According to the AG, the government intends to introduce stronger sanctions to address the problem, including the revocation of appointments where necessary.

He went on to add that enforcement action will be taken against those involved in fraudulent legal practices.

"These things are illegal, and they are going to be addressed, and they will carry strong sanctions and penalties," he said while adding that the aim is to protect citizens from exploitation and restore integrity within the legal system.

BILINGUAL IMMIGRATION LAWYER

(English & French)

Refugee Claims | Francophone Immigration Support Program | Francophone Minority Communities Student Pilot.

Contact me today!

pouchelonlaw@gmail.com.

416-759-8389

POUCHELON LAW
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION



Equality
MAINTAINING THE PERFECT BALANCE

EDITORIAL & OPINIONS

The World Must Listen

Editorial from the Guyana Chronicle, May 6 2026

WHEN President Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali spoke at the Offshore Technology Conference in Houston last Monday, he aimed to reshape the entire global conversation, and he was right.

In front of industry leaders, investors, and policymakers from over 100 countries, Guyana's leader made one of the clearest and most honest arguments this year: the planet needs energy balance more than it needs an energy transition.

This is not just wordplay. It corrects a prevailing narrative that has treated fossil fuels and renewables as opposing forces rather than as tools that can work together to meet the growing global energy gap.

The inconvenient truth President Ali highlighted in Houston is one that wealthy world-climate advocates have often avoided—record global clean en-

ergy investment of US\$3.3 trillion in 2025 primarily goes to China, the United States, and the European Union, while regions with the fastest-growing energy needs receive the least funding. That is not a transition; it is the entrenchment of energy inequality masked in green rhetoric.

The president's challenge was pointed: are we solving one environmental crisis while creating another? The demand for critical minerals for renewable technology has its own environmental costs: deforestation, toxic waste, and water stress in vulnerable communities.

These are not minor concerns. They are real issues that should make every sincere climate advocate think twice. Guyana is asking the right questions, even if many in the Western policy establishment are not yet willing to answer them honestly.

What strengthens Guyana's argument is that the country is not just theorising; it is showing the model in

action.

Guyana is one of the fastest-growing oil producers while also being a significant net carbon sink, with forests covering about 85 per cent of its land and absorbing over 150 million tonnes of carbon each year.

Through the Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030, Guyana became the first country to issue carbon credits under the ART-TREES standard, securing a landmark agreement valued at around US\$750 million—funds directed toward renewable energy, climate resilience, and national development. That is not hypocrisy; that is innovative governance.

Domestically, the Gas-to-Energy project at Wales, the rollout of solar farms across all ten administrative regions, advancements in hydropower, and investments in smart grid technology and storage, all show that the government is serious about creating a diversified, resilient energy system, not just extracting oil and moving on.

The regional effort is also promising, with partnership projects underway with Suriname, Brazil, and French Guiana to build interconnected power infrastructure that will benefit the entire area.

Critics may argue that Guyana should leave its hydrocarbons in the ground. They are entitled to that view, but they should be ready to explain to Guyanese communities still waiting for reliable electricity, better roads, and improved healthcare how long they must wait for the world to address its renewable financing issues.

The energy transition, as it stands, is not happening quickly or broadly enough for the Global South. Guyana's "energy balance" framework provides a practical and principled alternative, one that does not force a choice between development and climate responsibility because, as President Ali correctly states, those two goals do not have to conflict. The world listened in Houston. It should keep listening.

Attaining a resilient sugar industry

Dear Editor,

AS a communications analyst, I have spoken with many displaced former workers from the sugar industry in Berbice, gaining insight into their experiences following the industry's period of decline. These conversations reflect not only economic hardship, but also the emotional and social strain that accompanied the loss of stable employment in communities long dependent on sugar.

The closure of several sugar estates in Guyana—Wales, Skeldon, Enmore, and Rose Hall—between 2016 and 2017 resulted in approximately 7,000 workers losing their jobs. This decision created significant socioeconomic disruption, affecting families, small businesses, and entire villages that relied heavily on the industry for survival and continuity.

The reopening of the Rose Hall Estate in Berbice, however, represents a step towards recovery and renewed confidence. As of March 2026, public reports indicate that the Rose Hall, Albion, and Blairmont estates exceeded their weekly production targets during the second week of the current crop, producing 2,457 tonnes of sugar against a target of 1,989 tonnes—surpassing expectations by 468 tonnes.

This progress was further supported by the Weekly Production Incentive (WPI), which has motivated workers by providing additional earnings for increased productivity.

These results demonstrate that a combination of improved infrastructure, better management practices, and a committed workforce can significantly strengthen the industry. Strategic coordination and investment are proving essential in restoring efficiency and building momentum within the sector.

At the same time, the training and development of the next generation of skilled workers will be critical to sustaining long-term growth. The Guyana Sugar Corporation (GuySuCo) is targeting 100,000 tonnes of sugar production in 2026, supported by a \$13.4 billion government allocation aimed at modernisation, mechanisation, and factory improvements.

With production costs previously exceeding selling prices, ongoing reforms are focused on achieving fi-

nancial sustainability, with projections indicating a return to profitability by 2030.

With all of this in mind, it is important that Guyana continues to diversify its economic portfolio while strengthening traditional industries.

Sugar remains a foundational part of our national identity and economic history, alongside rice production, and continues to play a vital role in supporting regional food security within CARICOM. A balanced approach will ensure both resilience and progress for the nation

Sincerely,
Blane R Bunbury

Send us your letters

Equality welcomes letters to the editor from all of our readers. If you have an issue you would like to air in public, or an opinion to offer, please submit your letter to the editor to Equalitygroup@rogers.com.

Please note that all letters are subjected to be edited for space and to ensure they meet our legal requirements. Letter writers must include contact information, which will be withheld from publication, so we can contact the

Equality
MAINTAINING THE PERFECT BALANCE
Serving the Community for 35 years

Publisher: Bhaskar Sharma

Equalitygroup@rogers.com

Editor: Nishad Sharma

Annual subscription: \$104.00 (including postage)

Funded by the Government of Canada

Canada

Equality News is the largest weekly newspaper serving Guyanese and Caribbean readers in Canada.

Contributors: Niraj Sharma, Freddie Kissoon,

Donald Ramotar, Cliff Rajkumar, Dr Kumar Mahabir, Dr Vishnu Bisram
For advertising in Ontario or nationally, call Marie Sharma 416-281-3333

or 647 -216 2359

View Equality News every week online (ads included)

www.equalitynews.ca

Equality News International is published by Equality News Incorporated.

104-1920 Ellesmere Road - MB# 234, Toronto, Ontario M1H 3G1

Tel: 416-281-3333, Fax: 416-759-5359, Email: EqualityGroup@rogers.com

Federal government rolls out \$1B support for tariff-affected firms

By Milan Maharaj

LJI REPORTER

The federal government is rolling out a \$1.5 billion support package for industries affected by tariffs placed by the United States, including a new financing program delivered through the Business Development Bank of Canada and additional funding for regional economic agencies.

The announcement, made on May 4 by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), includes a \$1 billion loan program administered by the Business Development Bank of Canada. The program is meant to provide financing to companies that manufacture or export goods containing steel, aluminum or copper and have been impacted by trade barriers imposed by the U.S.

In addition, the federal government is allocating \$500 million in new funding to the Regional Tariff Response Initiative, which is delivered through Canada's regional development agencies. The funding is for supporting small and medium-sized enterprises across sectors impacted by tariffs by improving access to financing and supporting changes to business operations.

This follows changes to U.S. trade policy earlier this year, including new tariffs on products containing important industrial metals. The tariffs have affected a range of Canadian manufacturing and export sectors, leading to federal efforts to provide financial support and maintain competitive prices.

The Business Development Bank program will offer loans to eligible companies, with financing to help companies manage operational issues, maintain production and pursue new opportunities. According to the announcement, loans are expected to range between approximately \$2 million and \$5 million and will be offered over a multi year period.

The Regional Tariff Response Initiative funding will be distributed through regional development agencies, including the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario and Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions. These agencies provide support specifically for local economic conditions and are expected to aid businesses in adapting to tariff related disruptions.

The federal government said that



Industry Minister Melanie Joly announcing the support program

the extra funding will support activities such as diversifying the market, productivity improvements and investments in new technology. These changes are being made to help businesses make changes to current supply chains and reduce reliance on markets affected by the tariffs.

These changes all stem from ongoing trade tensions between Canada and the United States. The tariffs that have expanded over the past year have targeted many sectors, including steel, aluminum and automotive manufacturing, affecting cross border trade and supply chains.

Canada and the United States maintain one of the largest trading relationships in the world, with a large portion of Canadian exports headed for U.S. markets. Changes to tariff policies tend to have immediate effects on production, pricing and employment in export based industries.

Previous federal actions responding to tariffs have included financial support programs, adjustments to trade policy and the promotion of the use of domestically produced materials. The newly announced package builds on earlier efforts by expanding access to financing

and business support.

The Business Development Bank of Canada, a federal Crown corporation, plays a key role in the new program. BDC provides financing and advisory services to Canadian businesses, with focus on smaller industries experiencing economic hardship.

Regional development agencies are also expected to be important in delivering the added funding. These agencies operate across Canada and are responsible for assisting economic growth, innovation and business development within their respective regions.

The government has indicated that

the funding will be made available soon, with program details and application processes to be handed out through BDC and the regional development agencies.

The support package is designed to address both immediate financial pressures and long term changes within the affected industries, as Canadian companies respond to evolving trade conditions.



Minister Mustapha discusses agricultural growth, food security

Agriculture Minister Zulfikar Mustapha, who is currently in Belize attending the National Agriculture and Trade Show 2026 in Belmopan City as the guest speaker, continued his programme of engagements with a series of meetings and facility visits aimed at strengthening regional partnerships and exploring opportunities for collaboration in key agricultural industries.

As part of the visit, Minister Mustapha met with representatives of BELCAR, where he toured the company's grains, feeds, and oils operations.

Discussions focused on supply chain development, feed production, agro-processing opportunities, and the role of value-added industries in supporting agricultural growth and food security.

The minister also met with offi-



Minister Mustapha meets with farmers in Belize

cial of Reimers Feed Mills, where matters relating to livestock feed production, innovation in feed formulation, and improving support systems for poultry and livestock producers were discussed.

Minister Mustapha noted that affordable and reliable feed inputs are critical to expanding Guyana's livestock industry and improving competitiveness.

Additionally, the minister held discussions with representatives of Western Dairies and the Spanish Lookout Farmers Committee.

The engagements centred on dairy production systems, cooperative farming models, farmer support structures, and strategies to enhance productivity and market access for producers

NEXT ROOFING AND HOME SOLUTION

1000 Purpledusk Trail, Scarborough, ON M1E 4C8

Next Roofing Solution Services:

- Shingles
- Flat Roof
- Metal Roof
- Window Frame
- Gutter Cleaning
- Leaf Screen
- Shelter
- Aluminium
- Eavestrough
- Soffit
- Fascia
- Siding
- Vinyl Siding
- Skylight

FREE
ESTIMATES



Jemal Said, Owner

647-676-6699

onextroofingsolution@gmail.com

www.nrsroofing.com

License & Trader Contractor. Specializes in roofing and siding. All outside homes & WSIB & Insurance



Brian Tiwarie, OMC, AA - CEO



GROUP OF COMPANIES
Put Guyana First

1 & 2 MUDLOT WATER STREET, KINGSTON, GEORGETOWN, GUYANA. TEL: 592- 226-5513-4 | 226-5314-5 |

226-4113 FAX: 592- 226-5517 | 223-7421

Guyana Festival makes epic return as premier Independence celebration

FROM May 15 to 17, 2026, at the Guyana National Stadium, Providence, the Ministry of Tourism Industry and Commerce (MINTIC) will be proudly staging the return of the Guyana Festival as part of Guyana's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, commemorating 60 years as an independent nation.

On Thursday afternoon, subject minister Susan Rodrigues provided an update during a media engagement at the venue. Guyana Festival is slated to be held under the theme, 'Sound, Soul, and Taste.'

It was first envisioned by the President, Dr. Irfaan Ali in 2014 during his tenure as Minister of Housing and Water, according to Minister Rodrigues.

After 12 years, the festival makes a grand return, and targets Guyanese from across the country, as well as the diaspora and other international visitors who will be in Guyana for the month of May.

In her remarks, Minister Rodrigues stated that the festival marks the powerful rebirth of a visionary concept, reimagined for a new era of national pride, and cultural confidence.

"The festival calls us to celebrate 60 years of nationhood with pride, passion, and purpose, and calls us to honour the strength of Guyanese people, as well as the richness of our heritage, and the vi-



Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce, Susan Rodrigues

brant spirit that has shaped Guyana into one of the world's most dynamic and compelling emerging destinations," the minister said.

Further, the Guyana Festival calls for all Guyanese to come together for the celebration of culture, identity and ambition.

"Guyana's greatest strength is its people. At the heart of this festival is a celebration of our uniqueness as a people. Patrons will have the opportunity to explore the cultural zone and culinary village where the traditions of our six peoples will come alive through music, dance, cuisine, fashion and storytelling," she said.

According to Minister Rodrigues, history will come alive with displays of artifacts and relics that speak to Guyana's past. Over three exciting days, Guyanese and visitors can immerse themselves in Guyana's unique heritage through vibrant cultural showcases, as well as live demonstrations from African head wrapping and Tibisiri craft to sari and dhoti wrapping.

Providing a rundown of expected activities set to take place on each day, the minister said from the first day, which is May 15, 2026, persons can attend the opening ceremony which will be graced by the President and other high-ranking officials. The Guyana Police Force and the Guyana Defence Force will be in attendance, and Guyanese will witness rich cultural performances.

Immediately after the ceremony, patrons will be treated to a culinary experience at 'Taste of Guyana,' which will feature delicacies from the various ethnic groups, among other activities.

On day two, from 14:00hrs, patrons can experience the 'Culture and Food Extravaganza Showcase,' which is expected to feature cultural and culinary delights. At 20:00hrs, Guyanese cultural legends will be honoured at a 'Night of Legends,' featuring artists and music created by Guyanese, who are icons in the music industry. This, the minister said, will add further depth and excitement to the festival.

Then on the final day, May 17, 2026, the festival will feature a National Cookout Competition, where participants will be tasked with preparing dishes representing each of the various ethnic groups. The winners of this competition will receive cash and other prizes. Once again, at 20:00hrs on Sunday, there will be the One Guyana Concert, featuring contemporary local artistes and modern genres.

Some other key features of the event include arts and crafts that reflect Guyanese artistry, pottery making, and interactive sessions for traditional craft lovers. There will be a return of drama, comedy, and poetry, which is rooted in Guyanese creativity. In addition, there will be fun and interactive entertainment for the entire family.

Minister Rodrigues mentioned that tickets cost \$1,000 for adults, while chil-

dren under 12 are free. Ticket locations will be announced in the coming days.

Alongside this, the Minister announced the creation of a Guyana Festival Passport.

"So, this passport will cost \$5,000 and when you purchase the passport it offers you entry to all of the official Guyana Festival events across the three nights..." she said.

"It also includes special savings and discounts on tours from tour operators like Touring Guyana, AirDash, and 592 Tours along with hotel stays by some of our partners. We also are going to have a passport grand prize draw," she continued.

In that passport booklet are coupons, which can be taken out and redeemed at several stores, and tour operators, with holders getting a special discount. There are also coupons that can be dropped into a box at the Guyana Festival, with special drawings each night. These prizes are offered by Courts Guyana, Caribbean Airlines, BYD and GT Automotive.



**ADVERTISE
YOUR
BUSINESS
HERE**



President Dr Irfaan Ali, on Friday, hosted May Day Brunch for workers

President Ali outlines wealth-building vision for citizens: ‘You have to own things’

PRESIDENT Dr Irfaan Ali has highlighted that the government is working on plans to ensure that workers are able to invest in and benefit directly from large-scale national projects, outlining a vision for wealth creation beyond traditional wages.

The Head of State made this known while delivering his address at the Labour Day brunch at State House, on Friday.

Dr Ali emphasised that the government is moving to create systems that would allow ordinary Guyanese to own a stake in transformative industries, including those linked to the country’s expanding energy and industrial base.

“You have to own things. We want the workers to own things,” President Ali said, pointing to plans for special mechanisms and incentives that would allow workers to invest in major opportunities such as the gas and fertiliser projects and other emerging sectors.

He related that this approach rep-

resents the “next level” of economic empowerment, where citizens are not only earning incomes but also building assets and sharing in the returns of national development.

Dr Ali stressed that empowerment must go beyond wages and cash grants, arguing that long-term prosperity will depend on giving families the tools to generate and expand their own income streams.

“We can’t only think about empowerment through wages... we have to think about empowerment as something long-term, something sustainable,” Dr Ali affirmed.

In this regard, the President highlighted the planned establishment of the Guyana Development Bank as a key pillar of this strategy.

This institution, he said, will support small ideas and entrepreneurial ventures, helping to transform them into viable businesses and new sources of income for working families.

Dr Ali further pointed to the role of public infrastructure in creating wealth, noting that investments in roads and community development can significantly increase property values and economic opportunities for households.

However, the challenge ahead, he said, is ensuring that workers are equipped to leverage these gains.

“How do we work with the workers to deploy this additional value... to diversify your income, to expand your income base?” he questioned.

Against this backdrop, Dr Ali urged workers to position themselves to take advantage of opportunities arising from Guyana’s rapid development.

“This is a moment in our history... that requires a restructuring of our thinking process,” he said while adding that the government is building an “ecosystem” and setting aside resources to support citizens in this transition.

The President emphasised that the push for worker ownership will form

part of a wider development model grounded in social justice, with programmes designed to ensure that opportunities are accessible across the society.

He further reiterated the government’s commitment to strengthening support systems for workers beyond their active years, including pensions, healthcare and other services aimed at ensuring dignity in retirement.



BuyCanadianNow.Ca



U.S. companies ‘in it for the long term’ in Guyana – ambassador says

UNITED States companies operating in Guyana are committed to long-term partnerships and local capacity building, rather than short-term gains, according to U.S. Ambassador Nicole Theriot.

Speaking recently on the Energy Perspectives podcast, Theriot said the U.S. business model in Guyana is centred on collaboration with local firms and developing the country’s workforce.

“We don’t come in, bring our own workers, finish the project, collect our money and leave. That’s just not how U.S. companies or the U.S. government operates,” she said.

Instead, she explained, American firms are focused on building sustainable partnerships.

“We are in this for the long term. We are here to be your partner moving forward. We don’t just come and then leave,” she added.

Theriot emphasised that success in Guyana requires strong local collaboration. “You have to work very closely, hand in hand, with Guyanese companies and also Guyanese employees,” she said.

She noted that while expatriate workers may be used initially, the long-term goal is to transfer skills to Guyanese.

“Our model is: in the short term, if it’s necessary, we’ll bring in expatriates to work. But simultaneously, we are training and building the capacity of Guyanese workers so that we can leave and they can take over. It’s a matter of upskilling,” she explained.

The Ambassador described this approach as essential for ensuring Guyana’s long-term independence and



U.S. Ambassador Nicole Theriot

sustainability.

“It will make you, in the end, completely independent and self-sustainable,” she said.

Beyond oil and gas, Theriot highlighted growing U.S. interest in sectors such as infrastructure, agriculture, healthcare, and information technology.

“U.S. companies are absolutely interested in Guyana in a number of different sectors,” she said.

She pointed to major developments, including interest in a deepwater port, partnerships in agriculture, and investments in healthcare systems.

“There was a huge presence of U.S.

health care here—Mount Sinai Health Systems and Northwell Health. And they’re also bringing in other U.S. companies to modernise and expand Guyana’s health network. So, there’s so much going on in different areas.”

Theriot also revealed that Guyana’s first data centre could be developed by a U.S. company. However, she urged improvements in procurement systems to further boost investor confidence.

“I think Guyana could do itself a huge favour, not just for U.S. companies but for all international companies, if they looked at modernising the tender process. I think that’s something that

could really add a lot of value and be a win for all of us,” she said.

Theriot added: “Things like online submission of digital documents, or having oversight contracts for every single major public works contract—those things would give U.S. and international companies peace of mind. So, that when they’re dealing with Guyana, they know exactly what the requirements are, what they need to do, and how it’s going to work.”

The Ambassador encouraged potential investors to visit Guyana in person to fully appreciate the opportunities available.

“You have to come here. You can’t do a webinar or have a phone call. You have to see it for yourself,” she advised.

She also stressed the importance of patience and understanding the country’s stage of development. “Be open to connections with Guyanese partners and be patient,” she said.

Theriot expressed optimism about Guyana’s future, describing its rapid transformation as remarkable. “I have to say the transformation in this country is astounding... it’s almost unbelievable how quickly things are moving,” she said.

“And it’s just such a testament to the commitment of the private sector here, the government, and the Guyanese people wanting to make that transformation. So, it’s really beautiful. I’m really happy to see it.” She added that Guyana’s development trajectory is inclusive and forward-looking. “You’re seeing all of these benefits for all Guyanese... it can’t be just one segment of the population that benefits,” she said.

The World Guyanese Congress (WGC) is a federally incorporated non-partisan global organisation that represents the interests of citizens of Guyanese heritage around the world. The organisation focuses on the successful development of our communities globally with an emphasis on leadership development and collaborative activities in diaspora communities to strengthen the community worldwide.

The organisation is headquartered in Toronto, Ontario, Canada and led by a Chairman and Executive Committee supported by an Advisory Council and various Committees as well as a Board of Governors that acts as ambassadors for the organisation. It has nine national and regional chapters:

Key priorities of the WGC include:

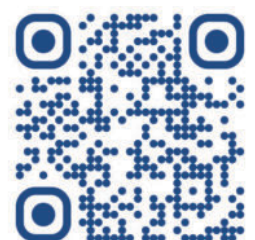
- Build a globally cohesive community with a focus on youth and women in business and civic leadership worldwide.
- Support social entrepreneurship and civic engagement in communities around the world.
- Engage diaspora communities in the social and economic development of Guyana.

World Guyanese Congress
5200 Yonge Street, 2nd Floor
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M2N 5P6



To find out more about World Guyanese Congress and our goals and priorities. Scan the QR code, or visit www.wgc-org.com

If you have any questions feel free to get in touch:
Email: mail@wgc-org.com
Telephone: [1-800-317-0804](tel:1-800-317-0804)



VP Jagdeo warns low production driving up food costs: 'Produce enough or pay more'

VICE PRESIDENT, Dr Bharrat Jagdeo says Guyana needs to produce more to deal with the rising market prices and minimise the effects of the external world conflicts.

Responding to a question from a farmer during a consultation convened by President, Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali on Thursday at the Arthur Chung Conference Centre, VP Jagdeo explained that Guyana is not producing enough of what its people are now eating, and that this gap is driving up food costs.

For a country that still relies heavily on imports for certain food items, Guyana is not insulated from that reality.

VP Jagdeo also acknowledged that local production shortfalls are unfolding against a volatile global backdrop, heightening the urgency of strengthening domestic food security.

The recent conflict between the United States and Iran, which sent shockwaves through the global oil and shipping industries, has added new pressure to an already strained global supply chain.

With oil prices rising and shipping disruptions causing economies to convulse, the cost of imported goods, including food, is expected to climb



Vice President Bharrat Jagdeo

further in the weeks and months ahead.

For a country that still relies heavily on imports for certain food items, Guyana is not insulated from that reality.

"More people are eating meat now. They're wealthier, they eat more chicken, they eat more meat and the prices are going up," the VP said. "We're not producing enough beef. We're not producing enough mutton in the country based on what people are eating....so prices keep going up," he said.

The VP pointed to chicken as an example of the local angle of the prob-

lem. Vendors buy a piece from producers at \$125 and sell it fried for \$6.75 USD.

Mutton tells an even sharper story. While a pound costs around \$4.99 USD in the United States, it fetches \$11 USD here, because the country does not produce enough, and suppliers know it.

The VP used cassava cultivation as another cautionary example, and one that is closer to home.

When the government offered farmers \$40 a pound and committed to setting up a processing mill, prices jumped to \$125 a pound within weeks, making the entire project unviable before it could start.

Against this backdrop, the VP said the country must either produce more or accept strategic imports. He said leaving prices to climb unchecked places the burden squarely on ordinary Guyanese.

"Guess who gets criticised all the time for cost-of-living increases? The government," he said.

On rice, traditionally a reliable staple, the VP acknowledged that rising labour costs could one day threaten that stability, making diversification and stronger yields a necessity rather than a choice.

He stressed that with global uncertainty showing no signs of easing, small-scale, low-productivity operations are no longer sustainable, and that livestock and agriculture must be treated as proper industries if Guyana is to keep prices manageable.

"If they go into it as an industry, I'm sure we can compete with any part of the world," he reasoned stating, "But if you do it at a low productivity level, then the country suffers. Ordinary people suffer."



EMAIL: SERVICES@TRADELOGIX.CA
PHONE: 416-938-8779



www.tradelogix.ca

MODEL# BLION-EW1500




Electric Pallet Trucks 

Type	BLION-EW1500	Pallet Capacity	3300 Lbs
Serial No		Weight Without Battery	258.5 Lbs
Lift Height	7.5 inch	Allowed Battery Weight	16.5 Lbs
Battery Capacity	20 Ah	Service Weight	275 Lbs
Battery Voltage	48 V		


Charging Time: 3HR

Working Time: 6HR


Work Shift: 24HR



Battery Status:
● Green: 70%-100%
● Yellow: 40%-70%
● Red: <40%



48V/6A [Charger]



48V/20AH [Battery]


• 24 Hours without break just need one extra battery.



Multi-function Control Handle



Less Wiring, Easy Service



Plug-in Battery Design



Guyana rising as investment destination, global leader

GUYANA now occupies a place of considerably more influence and respect globally, hemispherically, and regionally on almost all subject matters.

This was the sentiment expressed by Senior Minister with responsibility for Finance in the Office of the President, Dr. Ashni Singh, during his appearance on the ‘Starting Point’ podcast on Sunday.

Speaking following his participation in the International Monetary Fund (IMF)/World Bank Group (WBG) Spring Meetings, Minister Singh said the engagement, coupled with growing interest from international investors, have reinforced Guyana’s growing role of leadership on the international stage.

Speaking during the interview, Minister Singh said the recently held IMF/World Bank Spring Meetings were the most recent example of Guyana’s growing role and influence on the international stage.

Noting the shift that the meetings highlighted, he shared, “Those meetings are a good example of how, not



Dr. Ashni Singh signed the MOU with IFC’s Alfonso García Mora

only how we are viewed and perceived, but also the interactions that we have, and the contributions that we can make, and how those have evolved over time.”

He further noted that over the years, Guyana’s engagement with the international community, and particularly the international financial institutions, have improved drastically, and at an unprecedented rate.

He said this engagement has changed due to Guyana’s growing contribution and economic success.

“The engagement has changed significantly because we are a significant contributor now to regional economic

growth. We are a significant contributor to aggregate output in the oil and gas, well, in oil in particular, thus far,” he said adding, “The mere fact that we are now an economy that is growing rapidly, that economic outcomes in Guyana matter so much more significantly for aggregate Caribbean economic outcomes and the overall Caribbean economic outlook, that alone has contributed to a significant change in the engagement.” More importantly, Minister Singh noted that Guyana’s governance has gained just as much traction and attention.

He noted that the People’s Pro-

gressive Party/Civic Government continues to gain the support for its progressive leadership, with Head of State President Dr. Irfaan Ali setting an example through policy creation, implementation, and execution that has made Guyana a model in many regards.

“The international community also recognises that in this government, in successive People’s Progressive Party Civic/Governments, and in this generation of the People’s Progressive Party/Civic Government led by President Dr. Irfaan Ali, the international community has found a political leadership that has provided a good example to the world of policy making and policy implementation and execution that is worthy of emulation.”

Moreover, he noted that beyond building a policy framework and implementing it, Guyana’s leadership is also equipped with strong intellectual and thoughtful leadership. This, he added, has made Guyana a voice on a number of critical and pressing matters that face not just the region, but the world.

Our Family Caring for Your Family

Sending best wishes to the community as you celebrate the

60th Anniversary of Guyanese Independence.



OGDEN
FUNERAL HOMES

4164 Sheppard Avenue East
Scarborough, Ontario M1S 1T3
Tel. 416-293-5211
www.ogdenfuneralhome.com



SHARMA LAW

Your Personal Injury Lawyer

A lawyer who gets to know you, so he can represent you. When you're looking for the best possible result, you need an attorney who knows every detail about you and your case. Sharma Law takes the time to get to know each and every client, so we're in the best position to represent you and your family when it matters most. Backed by proven results and experience at Ontario's highest levels of court, Sharma Law specializes in Personal Injury Law.



NO FEES UNLESS WE SETTLE YOUR CLAIM



Personal Injury

Injuries caused by the negligence of others can be physically, emotionally, and financially devastating for victims and their families. If you've been injured, you need a personal injury lawyer who knows how to fight for the compensation you deserve.



Injury Claims

- Motor Vehicle Accident Claims
- At-Fault Accident Claims
- Not At-Fault Accident Claims
- Catastrophic In-jury Claims
- Slip and Falls / Trip and Falls
- Dog Bites
- Long Term Disability / Short Term Disability
- Pedestrian Accidents

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

We are committed to achieving successful results for every client and case. We accomplish this by providing exceptional legal advice and strategies based on a thorough understanding of your case and your desired outcomes.

FREE CONSULTATION AND CLAIM REVIEW.

Check out our Google reviews



Available for in-person visits at your home or hospital, anywhere in Ontario. Video Conference and Office meetings available.



Hurt? Call Vishal's direct line 6479724440

sharma@vsharmalaw.ca

www.vsharmalaw.ca



Iwokrama named among world's top eco-tourism destinations

GUYANA'S Iwokrama International Centre for Rainforest Conservation and Development has been named one of Travel and Tour World's "50 Best Eco-Tourism Destinations in the World for 2026," reinforcing the country's growing reputation as a leader in sustainable tourism and rainforest conservation.

According to information from the Guyana Tourism Authority (GTA), the global recognition underscores Iwokrama's model of balancing biodiversity protection with low-impact tourism, while providing livelihood opportunities for surrounding Indigenous and local communities.

Further cementing its green credentials, Iwokrama was first awarded the Green Destinations Good Travel Seal Certificate in 2023 for a two-year period and successfully renewed the certification in 2026, signalling ongoing, measurable progress in key sustainability indicators such as environmental management, cultural preservation, and community benefit.

These achievements align closely with national priorities, as the Ministry of Tourism, Industry & Commerce and the Guyana Tourism Authority continue to champion responsible tourism development, conservation, and community engagement across Guyana.

Together, these efforts position the country's tourism sector as a vital partner in safeguarding its rainforest



Iwokrama Resort

heritage while attracting discerning eco-travellers from around the world.

Farmers applaud government's cash-grant initiative

THE Government of Guyana is once again showing that its work goes beyond ministries and has a direct impact on the lives of Guyanese, with its most recent initiative aimed at ensuring the continued success of the agricultural sector and those who drive it.

Rice farmers across the country are expressing strong support for the measure, describing it as a timely intervention that will help them navigate low paddy prices and rising production costs. The initiative, launched last week, will provide direct cash payments to farmers based on acreage, a significant factor for both small- and large-scale farmers

It is aimed at offering farmers immediate relief while enabling them to re-invest in ongoing and upcoming crops. As the Head of State, President, Dr Irfaan Ali outlined options during the unveiling of the initiative, including direct cash support, fertiliser assistance, subsidies, and acreage-based payments, which are being considered.

The government's approach remains consultative and data-driven,

backed by engagement with farmers, and forms part of broader efforts aimed at stabilising the local rice industry amid global market pressures.

Speaking after the announcement, a number of rice farmers said the initiative is particularly important given the current challenges within the sector.

Dexter Thomas noted that with prices remaining low, any form of assistance provides a much-needed boost. He explained that the cash grant now allows them to return to their fields with some level of financial backing.

Sharing how the change in prices has impacted him and how this grant will aid, Thomas said, "I think it is a very good initiative because of the way the price is, and the government assisting the farmers is very good. I remember we did not get any good prices before, so they are doing something good."

The intervention is designed specifically to cushion farmers against declining earnings while ensuring production is maintained.

The Guyana Consulate is pleased to announce that
H.E. PRESIDENT DR MOHAMED IRFAAN ALI
 will have a
DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT/MEETING

May 9th, 2026

9:00 am - 11:00 am

Venue:
Pearson Convention Centre

2638 Steeles Ave. E.
 Brampton, Ont. Canada

SCAN HERE

Please register at

✉ devina.richmond@guyanaconsulate.com

☎ 416-494-6040 ext. 29



Danforth Food Market

www.danforthfoodmarket.com
We're simply the best West Indian store in town.



Maggi Season-Up Fish Seasoning 125 g

2.99 each



Grace Tropical Rhythms Selected Flavours 473 ml

2/\$3



Supligen Instant Breakfast Beverage 290 ml

2/4.50



Ovaltine Cookies 150 g

99¢ each



Ting Real Jamaican Grapefruit Beverage 591 ml

2/\$3



Mauby Fizz or Sorrel Fizz 300 ml

99¢ each



Grace 100% Coconut Water 1 L

2.99 each



Tropical Delight 100% Apple Juice 1 L

2/2.50



Nupak Browning 142 ml

2/\$3



Nu Chef White Vinegar 4 L

1.99 each



Kraft BBQ Sauce Original or Chicken & Rib 455 ml

1.99 each



Spurtree Pepper Jelly 210 g

1.99 each



Past Best Before Date Grace Hot & Spicy Vienna Sausage 130 g

99¢ each



Titus Sardines Assorted 125 g

2/\$3



777 Traditional Basmati Rice 8 lbs

7.99 each



Five Roses All Purpose White Flour 1kg

2/\$5



Super Kill Roach & Ant Killer 170 g

5.99 each



Tide Double Power Detergent Jasmine & Rose 1kg

3.99 each



Fresh-o-bowl Deodorizer 85 g

1.99 each



Pur-est Petroleum Jelly 170 g

1.29 each

Delicious Jamaican Dish

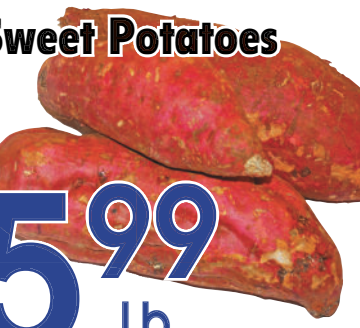



<p>The Best Ox Tail Money Can Buy Young Steer Ox Tail</p>  <p>\$9.99 lb Frozen</p>	<p>Frozen Square Cut Mutton Leg Meat</p>  <p>\$5.99 lb</p>	<p>Fresh Beef Kidney</p>  <p>\$1.99 lb</p>	<p>Salted Beef Short Ribs</p>  <p>\$6.99 lb</p>	<p>Frozen Square Cut Turkey Necks</p>  <p>\$2.49 lb</p>
--	---	--	--	--

<p>Frozen Cleaned & Gutted Lane or Yellow Tail Snapper 1/2-3/4 Size</p>  <p>\$44.99 5 lb Box</p>	<p>Frozen 31/40 Headless Black Tiger Shrimp 400 g</p>  <p>\$8.99 ea</p>	<p>Fresh or Frozen Turkey Wings</p>  <p>\$2.49 lb</p>	<p>Fresh Flamingo Chicken Leg Quarter</p>  <p>\$7.69 18 kg Box or 4.27 kg for 18kg + With Purchase of 2 cases or More Thursday To Sunday Only</p>	<p>Frozen Chicken Legs</p>  <p>\$22.99 18 kg Box or More</p>
---	---	---	---	--

Fresh Seafood Catches

<p>Fresh Mutton Red Snappers 6-10 lb</p>  <p>\$7.99 lb as is</p>	<p>Fresh Yellow Tail Snappers</p>  <p>\$5.99 lb as is</p>	<p>Fresh Porgy Fish</p>  <p>\$3.99 lb as is</p>	<p>Fresh Doctor Fish</p>  <p>\$6.99 lb as is</p>	<p>Fresh Atlantic Whole Salmon</p>  <p>\$6.99 lb as is</p>
--	--	---	---	---



YOU'LL LOVE OUR FRESH PRODUCE

<p>Fresh Jamaican Sweet Potatoes</p>  <p>5.99 lb</p>	<p>Sweet Large Haden Mangoes</p>  <p>2/\$5</p>	<p>Fresh White Yams</p>  <p>3.99 lb</p>	<p>Fresh Large Eddoes</p>  <p>1.99 lb</p>
--	---	---	--

Five Locations To Serve You Better

Specials in Effect Thu. May 7th until Wed. May 13th, 2026

Although we strive for accuracy in both copy & illustration, unintentional error may occur, we reserve the right to correct any error. Specials Available While Quantities Last. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

<p>Finch Ave. W. Danforth Food Market 3701 Keele St. 416-398-8123</p>  <p>Store Hours Monday-Friday 9 am to 9 pm Saturday 8 am to 9 pm Sunday 9 am to 7 pm</p>	<p>Steeles Ave. W. Danforth Food Market 301 Silverstone Dr. 416-740-9870</p>  <p>Store Hours Monday-Friday 9 am to 9 pm Saturday 9 am to 9 pm Sunday 9 am to 8 pm</p>	<p>Sheppard Ave. E. Danforth Food Market 651 Markam Rd. 416-439-6397</p>  <p>Store Hours Monday-Friday 9 am to 9 pm Saturday 9 am to 9 pm Sunday 9 am to 7 pm</p> <p><small>Under New Management</small></p>	<p>Bloor St. E. Danforth Food Market 1225 Dundas St. Dixie & Dundas Mississauga 905-949-9990</p>  <p>Store Hours Mond-Thurs 9:30 am to 8 pm Fri.-Sat. 9 am to 9 pm Sunday 9 am to 6 pm</p>	<p>Stafford Dr. Danforth Food Market 144 Kennedy Road South 289-298-0399</p>  <p>Store Hours Monday-Friday 9 am to 9 pm Saturday 8 am to 9 pm Sunday 9 am to 7 pm</p>
--	--	--	---	--

ANTIC JAMAICAN FOOD!




LOTUS

Funeral and Cremation Centre Inc.

121 City View Drive
 North of Belfield Road, East side of Highway 27
 647-547-8188 www.lotusfuneralandcremation.com



Seating for more than 500+ guests!

Crematorium inside our building!



CHARLIE'S CATERING SERVICE

Brought to you by Charlie's Caribbean Cuisine

The finest taste of the Caribbean
 Dine in or Take out & Catering

For CATERING Inquiries, call:
 905-949-0663



WE CATER FOR ALL OCCASIONS INCLUDING:
 • Corporate Events • Weddings and other Social Events

Not sure how much food you'll need?
WE CAN HELP YOU!

We will suggest the right amount of food to maximize the value of your dollar
 So you'll have enough food and pay less and have less waste

Full Catering for Hindu religious ceremonies including 7 curry
 (Cooked with separate cookware and utensils)

We Guarantee

you'll love our food, that's why we are willing to give a free taste test to prove that our food is great.

WE CATER TO ALL YOUR CARIBBEAN NEEDS.

All meats halal, pork free environment



For all your catering needs please call
 905-949-0663 or email us at

charliescaribbeancuisine@hotmail.com

3055 Hurontario St. Mississauga, L5A 2G9
www.charliescaribbeancuisine.com

Serving the community for over 30 years you can rest assure that your order will made fresh and with the highest quality ingredients possible.

ਬੀਹਿ ਭਵਾ ਭਾਗੇ ਲਾਮਦੀਰ & Cultural Center
Presents
SANGEET KAHANI 4
In Collab with Sangeet Vidyalaya | Akashvani Rhythms | Amargeet Music

Mandir: 416 261 0281
Pt. Dave Ramoutar: 416 918 4038
Pt. Heeralall Sharma: 647 505 7192
Bhai Raymond: 416 659 8967
Bahen Nadira: 416 873 4486

CONTACT FOR INFO	MANDIR - 416.261.0281	DONATION INFO: Etransfer (Canada) - donate.ssm@gmail.com PayPal (Canada & USA) - donate.ssm@gmail.com Cheque Payable to Shiv Sewa Sangh Mandir	ADULT: \$20
	PT. DAVE - 416.918.4038		CHILD (6-12 YRS): \$10
	BAHEN NADIRA - 416.873.4486		CHILD (5 YRS & UNDER): FREE
	BHAI RAYMOND - 416.659.8967		SNACKS WILL BE ON SALE

 **CASKET FACTORY™**
AFFORDABLE CASKETS & URNS

WE HELP FAMILIES SAVE ON FUNERAL COSTS™



Canadian Made: Affordable Caskets, Urns, Flowers, Headstones and more.
www.casketfactory.ca
Toronto Casket Factory Outlet
1-905-502-0334

LAW OFFICE

CHET SHARMA
B.A., B.S.W. (Hons), LL.B.
Barrister, Solicitor & Notary Public
GENERAL PRACTICE
Immigration Law
Criminal Law
Divorce & Family Law

Office: 416-285-1550
Res: 416-284-9191

150 Lawson Road, Toronto ON M1C 2J4



POINTMENT ONLY
Chet Sharma
B.A., B.S.W. (Hons), LL.B.

ADS IN EQUALITY WORK!

SG AUTO WORK
Stanley G. (Owner/Technician)

416-285-5875
sgautowork@hotmail.com
1940 Ellesmere Rd, Unit 14
Scarborough, ON, M1H2V7

- AC Services
- Brakes
- Electrical Systems
- Engine Repair
- New & Used Tires
- Steering
- Suspension
- Transmission Repair



 **LAPARKAN**
Global Freight & Logistics Solutions

Weekly Ocean & Air Freight Services

Antigua • Barbados • Guyana • Dominica • Grenada • Jamaica • St. Lucia • St. Vincent • Suriname • Trinidad

Door to Door Service • Returning Residents • Boxes & Crates • Complete Packing & Crating Services • Money Transfer • Courier Service • Empty Barrels (food grade plastic, cardboard & steel)

WE PICK UP IN MONTREAL & OTTAWA!

NEW EMPTY BARRELS FOR SALE AT OUR CANADA OFFICE!

\$70CDN

\$65CDN

MONEY TRANSFER AVAILABLE 

5250 Finch Ave E, Units 13 & 14, Scarborough, ON M1S 5A5
Tel: (416)292-4370 www.laparkan.com



SCAN ME

‘Energy balance key to global future’ – President Ali tells industry leaders

PRESIDENT Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali used the world’s premier offshore energy forum on Monday to outline a case that the global conversation must shift from “energy transition to energy balance.”

Delivering the feature address at the opening of the 2026 edition of the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) in Houston, Texas, President Ali said that Guyana’s distinctive approach is living proof that the model works.

Guyana’s head of state told the gathering of global industry leaders, investors and policymakers from more than 100 countries that the world is not simply switching from one energy system to another. It is trying to close a growing gap between supply and demand that continues to rise.

To back up his argument, he noted that global investment in clean energy reached a record US\$3.3 trillion in 2025, yet it remains heavily concentrated in China, the United States, and the European Union, leaving the regions with the fastest-growing energy needs the least funded. The president warned that the push toward critical minerals needed for renewable technology carries its own environmental price, from mass deforestation to toxic waste to water consumption in already water-stressed



President Irfaan Ali looks at a display at the OTC

communities.

To this end, he asked, “are we addressing one environmental crisis while creating another?” That tension, the president said, is exactly why the framing needs to change. “Instead of energy transition... how do we achieve energy balance to create a win-win scenario for investors, the planet, and humanity?”

Guyana, he said, has chosen that balanced path, extracting full value from its hydrocarbon resources while simultaneously building out a modern, diver-

sified energy system across all ten administrative regions.

The Gas-to-Energy (GTE) project in Wales, West Bank Demerara (WBD), is a cornerstone of that effort, aimed at lowering the carbon intensity of the national grid, improving reliability, and supporting industrial development. Solar farms have been deployed nationwide, with the energy mix tailored to each region based on geography and need.

Hydropower development is ad-

vancing, and investment in wind energy is underway to further diversify the renewable mix. The government is also upgrading transmission and distribution networks, investing in smart grid technology, and scaling up energy storage so that renewable energy can deliver on its potential.

President Ali said Guyana is also looking beyond its borders, actively developing projects in partnership with Suriname, Brazil, and French Guiana to build regional power infrastructure and interconnection systems that would deliver greater energy security and economic co-operation across the region.

“Guyana’s role in the global energy and climate landscape is distinctive,” the president said. “We are one of the fastest-growing oil producers in the world. At the same time, we are one of the most significant net carbon sinks. Our forests cover approximately 85% of our landmass.”

To conclude his address, the president appealed to every government, financial institution and private sector actor in the room to invest in Guyana, noting that any energy investment is an investment in a sustainable future and a balanced framework that the world needs.

ISLAND JUNCTION
Restaurant & Lounge

We Limin' at D'Junction

Where Every Bite Feels Like the Islands!

SIGNATURE DISHES:

- Pepper Shrimp
- Ginger Fried Rice
- Weekend Island Brunch

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT: KARAOKE & VIBES

PRIVATE EVENTS & CATERING
Perfect for birthdays, weddings & corporate gatherings

Escape to the Caribbean right here in SCARBOROUGH!

Call to Book: 416-292-2185 | www.islandjunction.ca
3300 McNicoll Ave Unit 5B, Scarborough, ON M1V 5J6

Follow us on Instagram, TikTok, Facebook

Island.junction

Island Junction - Where Flavor, Music & Community Come Together.

Guyana dismantles Venezuela's claims, defends validity of 1899 Arbitral Award

DISTINGUISHED international lawyer Paul Reichler has dismissed Venezuela's claims of collusion between the United States of America and Great Britain as implausible and unsupported.

He told the International Court of Justice (ICJ) that the historical record instead confirms the legitimacy of the 1897 Treaty of Washington and the October 3, 1899, Arbitral Award it produced.

Presenting submissions in the ongoing border controversy case, Reichler said Venezuela's argument that the treaty was tainted by fraud or conspiracy cannot withstand scrutiny.

"Mr. President, neither Venezuela's contention of fraud nor its contention of error withstands scrutiny or is even plausible," he argued.

Reichler described the allegation of collusion as illogical, noting that it would require the court to accept that the United States abruptly abandoned its longstanding support for Venezuela and instead sided with Britain.

He contended: "They strain credulity, requiring you to conclude that the United States... made a complete volte-face... by switching sides and supporting Britain's interest in the disputed territory to the prejudice of Venezuela's."

The attorney maintained that documentary evidence tells a very different story—one in which Venezuela actively sought arbitration and relied on U.S. support to secure it.

"It is a fact that Venezuela requested the protection of the United States in order to resist Great Britain's conduct and reach a peaceful solution to the territorial dispute," he told the court.

Reichler added that arbitration would not have materialised without that support.

"It was clear that the possibility of submitting the dispute to arbitration could have materialised only with the support of the United States," he stated.

Reichler further argued that Venezuela was not excluded from the treaty process, as it now claims, but was instead actively involved and represented throughout.

He told the World Court that the evidence indicates Venezuela relied on then U.S. Secretary of State Richard Olney and President Grover Cleveland



Attorney Paul Reichler

to protect its interests.

Reichler pointed to contemporaneous records showing Venezuelan representatives were consulted and their positions incorporated into negotiations.

"This is entirely fallacious. It is completely refuted by the documentary evidence, as you will now see," Reichler asserted, dismissing Venezuela's claims.

He also highlighted that Venezuela accepted and complied with the 1899 Arbitral Award for decades after the process it had championed concluded.

"As the court is well aware, Venezuela accepted, respected, and complied with the 1899 Arbitral Award for more than 60 years," he noted.

The 1897 Treaty of Washington, he explained, was the lawful basis for arbitration between Venezuela and Great Britain, culminating in the award that fixed the boundary between Guyana and Venezuela.

"I will address you on the 1897 Treaty of Washington by which they agreed to arbitrate their territorial dispute... resulting in the award of October 3, 1899," Reichler submitted.

He stressed that Venezuela only began challenging the treaty decades

later.

Reichler told the ICJ: "It was not until 1963, 66 years after it ratified the treaty, that Venezuela first began to find fault with it."

The validity of the 1897 Treaty remains a central pillar in the broader case concerning the legitimacy of the 1899 Arbitral Award, which legally established the boundary between Guyana and Venezuela.

Reichler's submissions sought to reinforce Guyana's position that the treaty—and by extension the award—was lawfully concluded and remains binding under international law.

As hearings continue, the ICJ is expected to weigh these historical and legal arguments in determining the merits of Guyana's case.

In accordance with the 1966 Geneva Agreement, Guyana and Venezuela engaged in decades of Good Offices efforts under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General in an attempt to reach a

peaceful resolution.

However, on January 30, 2018, after the process failed to yield meaningful progress, the Secretary-General determined that the Good Offices process had run its course and selected judicial settlement by the ICJ as the next means of resolving the controversy.

The case was formally filed by Guyana on March 29, 2018, seeking a final and binding ruling affirming the legal validity of the 1899 Arbitral Award and the boundary determined thereafter. Rulings of the ICJ are binding on parties.

**ADVERTISE
YOUR
BUSINESS
HERE**



India's Central Bank is taking steps to fight digital fraud

Indians lost \$2.5bn to digital fraud in 2025: Central Bank fights back

In February, Alok (name changed), a business analyst based in the western Indian city of Pune, got a text message asking him to pay 1,000 rupees (\$10.75; £7.9) as a speeding fine.

The message asked him to settle the amount quickly to avoid his driving licence being suspended, prompting Alok to immediately click on the link to pay. He was asked to share an OTP (one-time password) to complete the payment.

Minutes later, his credit card was charged \$3,225, the maximum transaction limit.

Alok had inadvertently authorised a much larger sum than what was supposed to be the fine, falling prey to a common scam in India where fraudsters send fake messages mimicking official websites that direct unsuspecting individuals to phishing links and drain their bank accounts.

Experts call this a type of fraud "social engineering" - where scammers dupe their victims using psychological manipulation, instilling fear and urgency.

India has seen an alarming rise in such fraud with the unprecedented adoption of digital payments in the country over the last half decade.

Nearly 2.5 million people have lost some \$2.5bn in 2025, a staggering 4,300% rise since 2021. The explosive jump in cases has finally prompted India's central bank, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to step in.

In a discussion paper released earlier this month, the central bank said it was mulling several measures to tackle the problem.

These include a one-hour lag at the payer's end in account-to-account transactions and additional authentication by a "trusted person" for high-value digital payments by vulnerable sections of society such as elderly people.

The paper also talks about limits and reviews of large credits to customer accounts to ensure these aren't mules (accounts used for illegal transfer of money), and giving people more control to switch on/switch off digital payments and set limits like they can for cards.

India's central bank is mulling several measures to reduce cyber fraud, including a potential time lag in payments

Several experts the BBC spoke to say that

while the RBI's proactive stance is a welcome step, these proposals - which will be finalised after public comments and feedback - could end up having only a limited impact.

The first proposal, for instance, to have lagged payments could be effectual in preventing OTP fraud of the type that Alok fell for, but in value terms such scams are a "minuscule proportion of the overall fraud landscape", Rajesh Bansal, former CEO of the RBI's Innovation Hub, told the BBC.

"These scams were the dominant variety three or four years ago, but frauds have now moved to another level, and are far more sophisticated."

Implementation of these measures could also be challenging, according to experts.

"It is not going to be easy to implement a lag because there are so many parties involved in the payment network. There is no simple way to do it without changing the current architecture," says Wriju Ray of IDfy, a leading regulatory technology company.

The RBI acknowledges this in the discussion paper, saying introducing lags would require changes across the system, from transaction queuing to cancellation mechanisms, and would involve "cost and effort for the ecosystem".

Moreover, the central bank acknowledges, it would "conflict with the core design principle of immediacy of digital payments".

"It's like building an expressway and adding speed breakers every few kilometres," says Bansal. And this friction is unlikely to help much.

"They [scammers] are just going to figure out a way to overcome the lag. For instance, they might ask for a customer to undertake a payment and wait for an hour for their acknowledgement so an alarm is not raised," says Ray.

According to him, some of the other measures being considered are fair but raise several questions. "Additional checks for senior citizens is probably highly recommended but how does one comply? What if your so-called 'trusted adviser' is abroad? And what if they ask you to go ahead with a transaction that still ends up being a fraudulent one? Then who does the accountability move to?" asks Ray.



ARIES (March 21 - April 20): Be wary of anyone who says they have an idea that is guaranteed to make money, because while it may make money for them the cash is likely to come out of your pocket. Don't be one of those suckers who is born every minute.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21): There has been far too much wishful thinking in recent weeks, both by yourself and by people you thought could make things happen for you. Mercury in your sign, at odds with power planet Pluto, means it's time for a mental reset.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21): As an Air sign you can be impetuous at times and the planets warn if you rush into something today the results are unlikely to be to your liking. You must look ahead and you must prepare carefully. Also, avoid people who push you to be impulsive.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23): If you have any doubts at all that something you have been working on is the right thing to do then stop immediately. It may have seemed like a good idea at the time but it should be obvious by now that you've made a wrong turn.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23): Power planet Pluto squares up to Mercury today and begins its retrograde phase tomorrow. What that means in everyday language is that you can no longer trust other people to make decisions for you. Seize the initiative and don't give it up.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23): Mercury, your ruler, is well placed in your chart, making it easy for you to get your message across, but colleagues and people in positions of power don't want to listen. It's a waste of time shouting, so do what you can on your own.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23): Something you did for a friend or family member earlier in the year will be repaid in full today. You may have forgotten about it but they have not and are determined to balance the books. It's good that they think so highly of you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22): By all means give voice to your opinions today but don't expect a positive response. While communications planet Mercury is at odds with Pluto it doesn't matter what facts you call on to support your cause, some people just won't want to know.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21): The planets indicate that what you do now will probably have to be done again later in the month, so to put it bluntly, why bother? Instead of exerting yourself, take time out from your busy schedule to enjoy the day with someone you love.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20): You want to be decisive but you can also sense that this may not be the best time to make a move that could define what others think of you for weeks, months, maybe even years to come. You don't HAVE to take action this very minute.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19): It's not like you to get emotional but Pluto in your sign has been playing havoc with your feelings of late and there could be more turmoil today. Take a few deep breaths, stand back from what is going on, and try to keep it all in perspective.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar. 20): Something you thought was a problem is about to be resolved to your liking and you will most likely be shocked. Seems you were led to believe by people you should not have trusted that a "crisis" was in fact of no real significance.

**Our
advertising works!
Try a low cost ad in
Equality News and reap
the benefits of the only
print weekly newspaper.**

Trinidad and Tobago government optimistic about Petrotrin refinery restart

The Trinidad and Tobago government says it remains optimistic that it will restart the state-owned Petrotrin oil refinery, which was shut down in 2018 by the administration of former prime minister Keith Rowley due to outstanding debts totaling billions of dollars.

Energy and Energy Industries Minister Roodal Moonilal said the administration of Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar is nearing a final decision on restarting the refinery, following high-level discussions with international stakeholders, including officials from Nigeria.

Moonilal told reporters that the government has drawn inspiration from successful refinery restarts in West Africa and is now finalizing a commercial and financing structure designed to reduce the burden on taxpayers by leveraging international private investment.

The proposal, which includes engaging a world-class operator while utilizing local labor, is expected to be presented to Cabinet for a final decision in the near future.

“I can say that we have had expressions of interest, we have had talks with entities throughout the Caribbean and across the globe. Quite recently in Washington, we have had discussions with officials of the Republic of Nigeria and other places as well on the refinery upstart,” Moonilal said, adding “we’re extremely optimistic.

“In Africa, incidentally, there have been several refineries that have had restarts, some even longer than seven years have been gone, and we were excited to learn of some of the West African developments.

“We are in talks with several entities concerning both operationalising, commercial structure, and of course financing. And we are coming to the end of that period now, and very soon, the cabinet and the prime minister will be involved in the government to take some decisions as we go forward.”

Moonilal said he would prefer not to go into further detail ahead of Cabinet deliberations but indicated that key decisions are imminent.

“But we are coming very soon now to some key decisions on that matter, and we are very happy with the interest, and we are happy with the scenario where, of course, the taxpayer will not have to expend any significant amount of capital investment, but we can get that from the international private sector, from the investing community, and of course we can have a reputable, world-class operator to work with our labour force here...and restart



The Pointe-a-Pierre Refinery in Trinidad

that refinery.”

In March last year, the Rowley administration said it had accepted a recommendation from an evaluation committee naming Oando PLC as the preferred bidder for the lease of the Guaracara refinery.

The government said the decision was based largely on Oando’s financial track record, including its US\$1.5 billion acquisition of assets from ConocoPhillips in Nigeria.

Trinidad Petroleum Holdings Limited (TPHL) owns Guaracara Refining Company Ltd, which operates the country’s only petroleum refinery. It also owns the Paria Fuel Trading Company subsidiary, responsible for importing refined petroleum products and managing domestic storage and distribution.

Earlier this year, the government received an interim report from the Refinery Restart Committee led by former energy minister Kevin Ramnarine.

A government statement said the committee had been tasked with reviewing the refinery’s technical readi-

ness, infrastructure, and utilities, and developing a plan for restarting operations in the shortest possible timeframe.

“The Interim Report notes that despite its closure seven years ago, the restart of the refinery is technically, commercially and financially viable given the current market demands for refined products and crude availability. The closure of the refinery for seven

years has led to degradation of the units and supporting utilities and offsites,” the government statement said.

When the refinery was closed in 2018, then finance minister Colm Imbert said the cost of upgrading the facility would have placed an unsustainable burden on the company, with debt estimated at TT\$12 billion, including TT\$5.780 billion due in August 2019.



CARICOM, Germany sign €31.9 million deal to advance regional development priorities

The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) have formalised a new cooperation framework aimed at advancing key regional priorities, with the signing of six implementation agreements valued at €31.9 million.

The agreements were signed on April 23 at the Secretariat's headquarters in Georgetown, marking a major step in activating a broader technical cooperation arrangement between CARICOM and Germany. The partnership stems from a Memorandum of Understanding signed in February 2025.

CARICOM Secretary-General Carla Barnett, who signed on behalf of the regional body, welcomed the continued collaboration, describing the programme as strategically aligned with the Community's development goals.

GIZ Regional Director for the Caribbean Jasmin Ellis-Jones signed on behalf of Germany and reaffirmed the agency's commitment to delivering measurable outcomes through close coordination with regional and national partners.

The six projects, set to run from 2025 to 2029, will be implemented by GIZ on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), in collaboration with CARICOM institutions and member states.

They include initiatives focused on biodiversity conservation (CARIBIO), climate-compatible circu-



Caricom General Secretary Dr Carla Barnett and GIZ Regional Director Jasmin Ellis-Jones at the table

lar economy development, expanding the blue economy in marine protected areas, organic waste and sargassum utilisation (BioWaste), sustainable energy supply (CliRES II), and climate-focused skills training under the Green and Blue Skills Project.

According to CARICOM, the programmes will target member states through efforts to strengthen institu-

tional capacity, support policy development, roll out pilot initiatives, and expand skills training, while promoting inclusive and gender-responsive approaches to sustainable development.

Germany's partnership with the Caribbean has long centred on renewable energy, climate resilience and environmental management, with technical cooperation dating back to

2008. Officials say the latest agreements represent a significant expansion of that relationship.

The framework establishes the operational basis for project execution and underscores a shared commitment by CARICOM, Germany and GIZ to promoting sustainable, resilient and inclusive growth across the region.

Man gets 40 years for killing Rihanna's cousin in Bdos

A man convicted of killing the cousin of Barbados' national hero and international pop star Rihanna has been sentenced to nearly four decades in prison, with the High Court underscoring the need for tough penalties to curb gun violence.

Shawayne Deshawn Williams was sentenced to 38 years and 138 days in prison on Friday after a jury earlier this year found him guilty of the murder of Tavon Alleyne. Alleyne, 21, was shot and killed near his home on Boxing Day in 2017. Williams has maintained his innocence.

Delivering the sentence, High Court judge Laurie-Anne Smith-Bovell said the judiciary must play a key role in protecting the public and deterring gun-related crime.

"Public concern about illegal firearms and violence and the need for general deterrence must be reflected in the sentences passed by the courts," the judge said, citing Director of Public Prosecutions Reference No of 2003. "The public are entitled to expect the courts to play their part in fighting the

proliferation of firearms and violence."

The court heard that Alleyne was shot multiple times around 7:00 p.m. on December 26, 2017, shortly after exiting a taxi. An eyewitness identified Williams as the man seen fleeing the scene, while another placed him in the vicinity before and after the shooting.

Justice Smith-Bovell pointed to several aggravating factors, including premeditation, the use of an unrecovered firearm, and the fact that the unarmed victim was ambushed in a public space. The court also determined that the killing was an act of revenge linked to a prior shooting involving Williams.

A starting sentence of 39 years was set, with additional time added due to Williams' criminal history and risk of reoffending, before deductions were made for time spent on remand and procedural delays.

Williams was also ordered to participate in rehabilitation programs, including academic, vocational, and psychological support, during his incarceration at Dodds Prison.

Director of Public Prosecutions

Alliston Seale, SC, had argued that the severity of the case warranted a sen-

tence of between 43 and 45 years.



Grenada strengthens Canadian tourism push with Toronto mission

The Grenada Tourism Authority (GTA) has wrapped up a high-level marketing mission in Toronto aimed at boosting arrivals from Canada, one of the destination's key source markets.

The delegation, led by Chief Executive Officer Stacey Liburd, along with Director of Sales (Canada) Sekou Stroude and Marketing Executive Melinda Telesford, focused on strengthening partnerships with airlines, travel advisors, and media while positioning Grenada within the competitive luxury and leisure travel segments.

A major outcome of the mission was engagement with Canadian carrier WestJet, including discussions around extending its direct seasonal service to Grenada beyond the current December–April window to a longer November–May schedule. Talks with WestJet Vacations also explored expanding vacation packages to increase visibility and bookings.

“Our presence in Toronto reflects a deliberate and focused approach to strengthening Grenada's position within the Canadian market,” Liburd said, noting that airline partnerships, trade outreach, and media exposure are central to driving sustained growth.

Grenada's luxury appeal was also highlighted at Virtuoso On Tour Toronto 2026, where the team engaged more than 80 high-end travel advisors. The destination further showcased its offerings during a sponsored dinner



Grenada is trying to attract more Canadian visitors

featuring presentations, curated experiences, and prize giveaways from hotel partners including Calabash Grenada, Six Senses La Sagesse, and Silversands Grenada.

Media outreach formed another key pillar of the visit, with the GTA connecting with 20 journalists and influencers. The effort has already generated coverage, including a feature in Travelweek, with additional exposure expected. Liburd also appeared live on CHCH Morning Live, expanding the destination's reach among Ontario

viewers.

“Engagement across trade, media and airline partners continues to reinforce strong demand for Grenada within the Canadian market,” Stroude said, adding that the strengthened relationships are expected to drive both immediate bookings and long-term growth.

The mission also included targeted engagement with major travel agencies such as Flight Centre, U Travel, and Maritime Travel, as well as partnership discussions with Sandals Resorts for

upcoming joint promotions in Canada.

In addition, collaboration with in-market partner VOX International pointed to strong campaign performance, with high engagement and conversion rates across ongoing initiatives.

The visit concluded with diplomatic engagement at the Grenada Consulate in Toronto, reinforcing alignment between tourism promotion and foreign service efforts as the island continues to expand its global footprint.

Holness says contractors must step up to meet housing goal

Jamaica's Prime Minister Andrew Holness is urging the development of an enterprise-level contracting sector to support the Government's target of delivering 150,000 housing solutions to meet national demand.

“As we scale up what we're going to do, contractors must also scale up their capabilities, their competence, and their resources. We are going to be increasing the capital budget... we're going to be bringing more projects on stream. We need you to be ready... we need you to make the investments in yourselves [and] in your communities,” the Prime Minister said.

He was delivering the keynote address at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Galina Housing Development in St. Mary on April 24.

Dr. Holness noted that each year a “significant percentage” of the capital budget is returned to the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service because

approved projects are not completed.

Beyond the many processes that precede construction, he said the issue of uncompleted projects is also linked to contractors, whom he described as critical to national development.

Dr. Holness stressed that contractors are essential to achieving the Government's 150,000 housing target.

He explained that the strategy involves engaging individuals with proven housing construction experience and entering into legal agreements that obligate them to deliver homes at a specified price, quality standard, and within a defined timeframe.

The Prime Minister said Jamaica needs a contracting class that operates at enterprise scale—one that invests in technical skills, integrates technology, and builds the financial capacity to support major capital projects.

Dr. Holness said contractors must have the capacity to take on up to 10,000



Andrew Holness

houses at a time to make a meaningful impact.

He also urged local contractors to embrace innovation and leverage technology to deliver houses in half the time previously required.

The Prime Minister added that while the Government will continue to make preferential arrangements for local

contractors, they must also be competitive at the regional and global levels.

For the Galina Housing Development, the National Housing Trust has partnered with Henan Fifth Construction Group Jamaica Limited.

“We welcome them into our space. We will hold them to the same standards, if not higher, for the production of houses at pace, at scale, and at the level of affordability for the average Jamaican,” Dr. Holness said.

He emphasized that their involvement must contribute to Jamaica's broader development.

“It is not an extractive engagement. Skills transfer... technology transfer must be done. The use of Jamaican technical expertise must be done. Your corporate social responsibility to Jamaica and Jamaicans must be exercised. You must contribute to the communities that you are participating in,” the Prime Minister underscored.

BuyCanadianNow.Ca



Browne's snap election gamble pays off: ABLP secures landslide victory

Prime Minister Gaston Browne's decision to call a general election nearly two years ahead of the constitutional deadline paid off on Thursday, with his ruling Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party (ABLP) securing a commanding victory at the polls.

Preliminary results indicate the ABLP won 15 of the 17 seats contested, a significant improvement from its narrow 9–7 margin in the January 2023 general election.

"We are humbled and honoured by your support and confidence. Now is the time to move forward together, build on our gains and continue our work on this long journey toward the betterment of our society and the upliftment of our people. From each and every one of us, THANK YOU," Browne wrote on the party's official Facebook page.

Addressing supporters, Browne expressed gratitude for the confidence placed in his leadership and that of the ABLP to continue the country's socio-economic development.

"We are here to serve all the people of Antigua and Barbuda. Education, jobs, business opportunities will be open to all who are prepared to seize them and I say to my distinguished countrymen and countrywomen ... when we create these opportunities for you, please seize them," he said.

"And I add here again that no one will be left behind who is willing to move forward. And notwithstanding your political persuasion, this is not a time for laggards. This is a time for all of us to perform, to increase our productivity and to make sure that Antigua and Barbuda becomes one of the most productive small island states globally."



Gaston Browne

Browne said projects are already underway across the country, transforming communities, strengthening the economy and improving lives.

"And we will build on that foundation, advancing new initiatives that uplift our people, enhance our dignity and deepen our pride as citizens of Antigua and Barbuda," he added.

He also urged national unity and confidence on the regional and interna-

tional stage.

"We must remain a dignified people. We must not cower to anyone. We must not be timid. We must stand tall in every forum, every regional, every international forum as Antiguan and Barbudans," he said.

Despite the scale of the victory, Browne said it was not a moment for triumphalism.

"So, just in case anyone expected

me to gloat, at the end of the day, the contest is over. From all indications, the people who have supported us to get between 15 of the 17 seats, that in itself is a resounding mandate for which we are eternally grateful," he added.

According to preliminary figures from the Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission (ABEC), Opposition Leader Jamale Pringle of the United Progressive Party (UPP) was the only candidate from his party to retain a seat, defeating ABLP candidate Anthony Smith.

On Barbuda, incumbent Trevor Walker of the Barbuda People's Movement (BPM) held his seat with 609 votes, compared to 398 for ABLP candidate Kendra Beazer.

Pringle thanked supporters and congratulated the ABLP on its victory.

"I want to thank all Antiguan and Barbudans who have supported the United Progressive Party. We're indeed grateful and you will hear from us in a short time," he said.

He acknowledged the party's defeat while pledging its continued presence.

"Just as we did in 2018, we'll still be standing. We can't get enough of the United Progressive Party. We'll still be there," Pringle added.

Among those defeated was former finance minister Harold Lovell, who had returned to contest the All Saints West seat after stepping away from active politics following the 2023 election. He lost to Anthony Smith.

Browne, who retained the St. John's City West seat he has held since 1999, becomes the first prime minister in Antigua and Barbuda to win four consecutive general elections.

SVG PM outlines plans to tackle debt, economy

Prime Minister Godwin Friday says his administration will pursue a rules-based fiscal strategy to address Saint Vincent and the Grenadines's mounting debt and fragile economic position, warning that the country can no longer rely on hope that its challenges will resolve on their own.

Speaking at a news conference on Tuesday, Friday—who also holds the finance portfolio—said the government is charting a new course to stabilize the economy while ensuring fairness for vulnerable citizens.

"We cannot continue on the course that we have been going for the past several years and still expect that somehow the challenges will resolve themselves," he said.

Friday outlined plans for a home-grown economic stabilization program, developed with technical support from the International Monetary Fund but rooted in national ownership. He was

joined at the briefing by IMF mission chief Sergei Antoshin, who recently led a delegation to Kingstown.

"We will develop our own program... that will ensure national ownership of the recovery journey on which we are embarking," Friday said, welcoming what he described as a balanced approach from international partners.

He emphasized that any adjustment measures must take into account the social impact of economic reforms, particularly amid high oil prices and inflation.

"It is not just a balance sheet matter—it involves people's lives," he said. "The costs... will not be borne disproportionately by those who are most vulnerable."

Friday stressed that protecting low-income households will be central to the reform agenda, as the country grapples with rising debt and external shocks, including the lingering effects of recent natural disasters.



According to government data, the country's debt-to-GDP ratio stood at 113 percent in 2025 and could climb to 145 percent by 2031 if current policies remain unchanged. St. Vincent and the Grenadines has also been classified as at high risk of debt distress since 2016.

"The present course has gotten us to where we are... a very difficult fiscal situation," Friday said, noting that the country is still recovering from multiple crises.

To address the issue, the government plans to introduce a rules-based fiscal framework with legal backing, clear targets, and greater transparency. Among the key goals is achieving a primary surplus of three percent of GDP by 2029.

"It's challenging... but we have to set ambitious targets," Friday said, noting that similar fiscal turnarounds have been achieved in other countries.

He added that the administration aims to realign with Eastern Caribbean Currency Union benchmarks, including a debt-to-GDP target of 60 percent.

Friday also signaled a break from past fiscal practices under the former Unity Labour Party administration, which governed from 2001 until last November.

"We are prepared to do what is necessary... to set our country on a path toward fiscal responsibility, while also generating growth in a way that is responsible and sustainable," he said.

Spirit Airlines shutdown not expected to disrupt Jamaica tourism sector

The cessation of flights by United States budget carrier Spirit Airlines is not expected to significantly impact Jamaica's tourism sector, according to Tourism Minister Edmund Bartlett.

Bartlett said the airline accounted for a relatively small share of the island's air traffic and that other carriers are expected to absorb the affected passenger demand.

"Spirit represents just under three per cent of passenger load, a projected about 30,000 to 40,000 seats for the summer," Bartlett said. "But Spirit flies out of Fort Lauderdale, which is very well served by other airlines, so we anticipate that they will pick up the passenger load that Spirit was projected to move."

The minister added that the last scheduled Spirit Airlines flight out of Jamaica was expected on Tuesday, and that discussions have already been held with hotel partners to support stranded passengers while they make alternative travel arrangements.

Spirit Airlines began winding down operations early Saturday after negotiations for a reported US\$500 million bailout by the Trump administration collapsed. The shutdown has affected approximately 1,500 employees, while thousands of passengers booked on the low-cost carrier have been left scrambling to rebook flights from destinations across its network.

Bartlett noted that Jamaica is closely monitoring developments in the global aviation sector, pointing to ongoing geopolitical and economic uncertainties that continue to shape airline operations and travel demand.

"We are watching the aviation in-



Spirit Airlines was the USA's budget carrier

dustry very carefully given the current global geopolitical situation," he said.

Tourism officials say they remain

confident that Jamaica's airlift capacity will remain stable in the short term, with partner airlines expected to adjust

schedules and capacity to meet demand previously served by Spirit.



Advertise and survive as the holiday season approaches with a low cost ad in Equality News 647-216-2359

NEXT ROOFING AND HOME SOLUTION

1000 Purpledusk Trail scarborough ON M1E 4C8

LICENSE AND TRADER CONTRACTOR
SPECIALIZES IN ROOFING AND SIDING
ALL OUT SIDE HOMES
AND WSIB AND INSURANCE

Jemal Said
Owner

647-676-6699

onextroofingsulotiin@gmail.com

www.nrsroofing.com

NEXT ROOFING SOLUTION SERVICES:

- Shingles Roof
- Flat Roof
- Metal Roof
- Window Frame
- Gutter Cleaning
- Leaf Screen
- Shelter
- Aluminum
- Eavestrough
- Soffit
- Fascia
- Sliding
- Vinyl Sliding
- Skylight

FREE ESTIMATE



Race to the Champions Cup begins as Caribbean Cup draw nears

The path to continental football glory is beginning to come into focus.

On May 26 in Miami, the official draw for the 2026 Concacaf Caribbean Cup will set the stage for another fierce regional battle, one that carries with it not only Caribbean supremacy, but qualification to the 2027 Concacaf Champions Cup.

With anticipation building across the region, three clubs have already punched their tickets into the tournament: Dominican Republic powerhouse Cibao FC, along with Trinidad and Tobago representatives Club Sando and Defence Force FC.

Seven more teams are still to emerge from domestic leagues and qualifying competitions in the weeks ahead, but the outlines of the tournament are already taking shape.

Now entering its fourth edition, the Concacaf Caribbean Cup has rapidly evolved into the Caribbean's premier club competition, offering clubs not only regional recognition but also a gateway to the broader Concacaf stage.

This year's tournament will feature 10 clubs divided into two groups of five.

The opening Group Stage will stretch from August 4 through September 17, with every club playing four matches, two at home and two away, over five match windows. The format is designed to test both depth and consistency, leaving little margin for error.

Only the top two teams from each group will survive the opening phase and advance to the knockout rounds.

Once the field narrows to four, the competition will shift into a high-pres-



sure home-and-away semi-final format scheduled for October 13-15 and October 20-22.

The stakes will only rise from there.

The Final and third-place playoff, both played across two legs on December 1 and December 5, will determine not just the regional champion, but which clubs move on to the next level of continental competition.

The reward structure makes every match critical.

Both finalists, along with the third-place finisher, will qualify for the 2027 Concacaf Champions Cup. The tournament champion will earn an even greater advantage: a direct bye into the Round of 16.

The official draw in Miami will play a major role in determining the competitive balance of the tournament.

Concacaf will use a single-blind

draw system built around five pots, with seedings determined by the Concacaf Club Ranking as of May 25, 2026.

Teams will be drawn sequentially into Groups A and B until each group contains one club from every pot.

That structure could create immediate heavyweight clashes and dangerous travel schedules, particularly in a competition where away performances often determine survival.

While three clubs are already confirmed, seven qualification places remain available across the Caribbean football landscape.

Two positions will come from the CFU Club Shield, awarded to the champion and runner-up of that competition.

Haiti will contribute one club through its Champion des Champions winner.

Jamaica, one of the Caribbean's strongest football territories, will send two representatives, the champion and runner-up from the 2025-26 Jamaica Premier League season.

Another berth will go to the champion of the Dominican Republic's Liga Dominicana de Fútbol, while Suriname's representative will emerge from the 2025-26 Suriname Major League campaign.

With qualification races still active in several countries, the final tournament line-up remains fluid and potentially explosive.

Hovering over the competition is the shadow of defending champions Mount Pleasant FA of Jamaica.

The Jamaican club captured its first Caribbean Cup crown in 2025 after edging Universidad O&M FC 3-2 on aggregate in a gripping final, a triumph that elevated the club's regional stature and reinforced Jamaica's growing influence in Caribbean football.

As the new tournament approaches, challengers across the region will be eager to dethrone them.

For Caribbean clubs, this competition has become far more than a regional showcase.

It is now a direct pathway into the wider Concacaf ecosystem, a chance to test themselves against elite opposition from North and Central America, raise club profiles internationally, and accelerate professional development both on and off the field.

By the time the draw balls are pulled in Miami on May 26, the countdown to another high-stakes Caribbean campaign will officially begin.

Australia tightens grip on ICC rankings as WI show revival

The latest ICC rankings update delivered a familiar message to the cricket world: Australia remains the sport's gold standard.

From the ruthless consistency of their men's Test side to the overwhelming supremacy of their women's ODI team, the Australians continue to sit atop the international game with authority that borders on intimidation.

Yet beyond the predictable dominance at the summit, the newest rankings release also revealed something more subtle, a flicker of momentum emerging from the Caribbean.

For the West Indies, long trapped in cycles of inconsistency and rebuilding, the numbers released Friday offered cautious encouragement. The progress may be modest, but for both the men's and women's teams, there are unmistakable signs that movement, however gradual, is underway.

At the top of the men's Test rankings, Australia remains firmly in command with 131 rating points, maintaining a commanding 12-point cushion over second-placed South

Africa.

It is another reminder of the depth and durability that have defined Australian cricket across eras.

The women's ODI rankings tell an even more lopsided story.

Australia's women sit on a towering 163 points, an extraordinary 35 points ahead of England, reinforcing their status as the undisputed powerhouse of the format.

While other nations continue to chase consistency, Australia continues to define it.

For West Indies supporters, however, the real intrigue lies deeper in the table.

The West Indies men remain in eighth place in the Test rankings, hardly a dramatic headline on the surface. But the underlying numbers suggest resilience in a period when several rivals lost ground.

Under the leadership of Daren Sammy, the regional side managed to gain stability in the updated calculations. Though still positioned near the lower end of the rankings, the team's rating

movement reflects a measure of progress during a volatile reshuffling period.

That stability became even more noticeable as England suffered a significant drop. The English lost seven rating points after results from their celebrated 2022 home victories over New Zealand and South Africa, along with their 3-0 sweep of Pakistan away from home, were removed from the rolling three-year rankings cycle.

The adjustment pushed England behind India into fourth place.

Further down the standings, Pakistan climbed to sixth with 89 points, overtaking Sri Lanka, which slipped to 86. Ireland disappeared from the Test rankings altogether after failing to play enough matches to remain eligible.

If the West Indies men showed cautious progress, the women's side delivered a far more encouraging rise.

Led by captain Hayley Matthews, the West Indies women gained two rating points to move to 71 in the ODI rankings.

The increase may appear small numerically, but strategically it could prove

significant.

The top six positions remain unchanged, Australia, England, India, South Africa, New Zealand, and Sri Lanka continue to hold those places, but just beneath them, the race has tightened considerably.

The West Indies women now sit within striking distance of both Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Bangladesh's rise above Pakistan into seventh reshaped the middle tier of the rankings, leaving the West Indies just two points behind Pakistan and within realistic reach of climbing another position with a strong run of performances.

For a side searching for consistency and renewed identity, that narrowing gap matters.

It suggests that the distance between the Caribbean side and the teams immediately above them is no longer daunting.

Elsewhere in the women's rankings, both Thailand and the Netherlands were removed after failing to meet the requirement of playing at least eight ODIs during the past three years.



Special Offers Effective: Friday May 08 To Thursday May 14, 2026.



VEGETABLE & FRUIT

White Radish 白萝卜 Reg: \$1.48 88¢ lb	Napa 紹菜 Reg: \$1.59 99¢ lb	Big Taro 大芋頭 Reg: \$1.79 1.29 lb	Baby Mustard 芥菜仔 Reg: \$1.99 1.39 lb	Green Bean 青豆仔 Reg: \$2.99 1.99 lb	Red Pepper 紅椒 Reg: \$2.99 1.99 lb	Green Leaf Lettuce 唐生菜 Reg: \$2.99 1.99 ea	Hot House Tomato 溫室番茄 Reg: \$4.99 2.99 lb
Mini Cucumber 迷你青瓜 Reg: 2 for \$5.00 2/\$3.00	Long Hot Pepper 粗長青椒 Reg: \$4.99 3.99 lb	Hami Melon 哈密瓜 Reg: \$1.99 99¢ lb	Bosc Pear 波士啤梨 Reg: \$1.99 1.29 lb	Gala Apple 蘋果 Reg: \$1.99 1.39 lb	Black Grape 黑提 Reg: \$4.99 2.99 lb	Yellow Peach 黃毛桃 Reg: \$5.99 3.99 lb	
Fresh Blueberries 551ml 新鮮藍莓 Reg: \$5.99 3.99 pk	Mini Watermelon 迷你西瓜 Reg: \$5.99 3.99 ea	Honeydew 白蜜瓜 Reg: \$5.99 3.99 ea	Avocado 牛油果 Reg: 2 for \$5.00 3/\$5.00	Golden Kiwi Basket 2lb 盒裝黃金奇異果 Reg: \$12.99 8.99 pk	Apple Mango 蘋果芒 Reg: \$17.99 13.99 case		

GROCERY

Samyang Carbona Noodle 火雞面 6x105g Reg: \$15.99 9.99 case	Arizona Green Tea 綠茶 680ml Reg: \$1.79 99¢ ea	Vita Coco Coconut Water 椰子水 330ml Reg: \$1.99 1.19 ea
Natural Honey Farms Honey 蜂蜜 750g Reg: \$9.99 6.99 ea	Chin Chin Grass Jelly Series 親親涼粉系列 540g Reg: \$2.59 1.59 ea	S&W Tropical Mixed Fruit 雜果罐頭 2.84L Reg: \$10.99 7.99 ea
Carnation Evaporated Milk 奶油 354ml Reg: \$2.59 1.69 ea	Datu Puti Vinegar & Soy Sauce Value Pack 醬油+醋 2x1L Reg: \$5.99 3.99 ea	Gallo Extra Virgin Light Olive Oil 1L 橄欖油 Reg: \$12.99 8.99 ea
Maggi Seasoning Soy Sauce 醬油 800ml Reg: \$10.99 7.59 ea	Banh Da Kho Rice Noodles 米粉 300g Reg: \$3.59 1.99 ea	Vermicelli 300g 龍口粉絲 Reg: \$1.99 1.29 ea
Fiesta Flour Stick Noodles 黃面 227g Reg: \$1.99 1.39 ea	Rens Foods Rozana Biryani Rice 8lb 調味粉 Reg: \$8.99 4.99 ea	Golden Panda Tapioca Starch 全牌貓木薯澱粉 400g Reg: \$1.29 69¢ ea
Mikko Banh Khot Flour For Rice Pancake 煎餅粉 500g Reg: \$2.59 1.59 ea	Knorr Thit Than Xuong Ong 調味粉 Reg: \$7.99 5.99 ea	YXL Dried Black Fungus 200g 永興降黑雲耳 Reg: \$6.99 3.99 ea

RESTAURANT SPECIAL

Pelleted Garlic 蒜肉 21.00 case	Cabbage 椰菜 25.00 case	Red Pepper 紅椒 15lb 26.00 case	Napa 紹菜 35.00 case	Lemon 18kg 黃檸檬 42.00 case	Green Onion 蔥 42.00 case
Broccoli 西蘭花 45.00 case	Green Leaf Lettuce 唐生菜 47.00 case	Green Bean 青豆仔 49.00 case	Celery 西芹 65.00 case	Avocados 36s 牛油果 50.00 case	
Head On Shrimp 40/50 24lb 有頭白蝦 108.00 case	Headless White Shrimp 無頭白蝦 21-25 10x4lb 210.00 case	Free Run Omega-3 Large Brown Egg 15 Dozen A Case 箱裝雞蛋 88.00 case	Extra Large Egg 箱裝大雞蛋 56.99 case	Fresh Chicken Leg Quarter 新鮮雞大腿 18kg 79.99 case	Chicken Breast 雞胸肉 25kg 260.00 case
Gold Plum Dried Black Fungus Strips 5lb 木耳絲 29.99 case	Mr. Goudas Long Grain Rice 黃米 20kg 29.99 bag	Long Grain White Rice 優質絲苗米 20kg 29.99 bag	P.R.B Monosodium Glutamate 50lb 珠江橋牌味精 58.00 bag	ADM All Purpose Flour 面粉 20kg 19.99 bag	Sunsun Vegetable Oil 16L 菜油 37.99 case
Redpath Sugar 20kg 白糖 26.99 bag	YR-24W Microwavable Container 餐盒 4150s 19.99 case	YS-32 Microwavable Plastic Soup & Deli Container 240s 餐盒 34.99 case	MP-0901 9"X9" Mfpp Clamshell Container 150pcs 餐盒 27.99 case	LR EP-6 White Hinge Container 餐盒 22.99 case	

FROZEN

THAI Gold Frozen Shrimp 速凍蝦 13-15 380g Reg: \$10.99 7.99 ea	Cool Ocean Vannamei Shrimp Cooked P&D 熟蝦仁 Reg: \$10.99 8.88 ea	Kababayan Rabbitfish 500g 泥猛魚 Reg: \$4.99 3.99 ea	WFZ Rice Dumplings Series 五芳齋粽子 300g Reg: \$4.99 3.99 ea	Bulacan Pinoy Steet Food Fish Ball Kikiam Squid Balls 魚丸 600g Reg: \$5.99 4.99 ea	Sarangani Bay Smoked Deboned Milkfish 350g 牛奶魚 Reg: \$7.99 5.99 ea
Golden Sea Cuttle Fish 450g 墨魚 Reg: \$4.99 2.99 ea	Kababayan Red Chili 227g 紅辣椒 Reg: \$2.99 1.99 ea	Sanford Greenshell Mussels 紐西蘭半殼青口 800g Reg: \$12.99 10.99 ea	Marco Polo Baby Squid 魷魚 900g Reg: \$5.99 4.99 ea	Sealtest 35% Whipping Cream 1L 奶油 Reg: \$8.99 6.99 ea	SH Tempura Shrimp 16/20 天婦羅蝦 Reg: \$6.99 4.88 ea

SEAFOOD

Fresh Pickeral 新鮮鰱魚 Reg: \$5.99 4.99 lb	Live Blue Crab 生猛藍蟹 Reg: \$7.99 5.99 lb	Fresh Salmon Head 新鮮三文魚頭 Reg: \$3.99 1.59 lb
Fresh Frozen Lobster 新鮮上水龍蝦 Reg: \$5.99 4.99 lb	Frozen Fresh Head-On White Shrimp 冰鮮有頭南美白蝦 Reg: \$5.99 4.99 lb	Fresh Skate Wing 新鮮班翅 Reg: \$3.99 2.99 lb

1635 Lawrence Ave West, North York ON, M6L 3C9 Tel: 416-241-8988 MON - SUN 8:30AM - 9PM, OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK www.superking.ca

Although We Strive For Accuracy In Both Copy & Illustration, unintentional Error May Occur. We Reserve The Right To Correct Any Error. Specials Available While Quantities Last. We Reserve The Right To Limit Quantities. Design and advertisement by Promobiz Solutions. Tel: 416-773-1668

**ETHNIC VISION
IMMIGRATION
SERVICES**

OUR SERVICES

- SPECIALIST IN REFUGEE MATTERS
- APPEALS
- FAMILY SPONSORSHIP
- STUDENT VISAS
- STUDY PERMITS

Ritu Vashni Sharma
RCIC #R510878
FOUNDER/OPERATOR
Canadian Immigration Consultant

CALL FOR CONSULTATION
(416) 799-2106

**RVS LEGAL
SERVICES
PROFESSIONAL
CORPORATION**

We offer expert legal consulting services designed to provide clarity, guidance, and strategic solutions tailored to your unique needs and objectives

OUR SERVICES

- Specialized in Landlord and Tenant Matters
- Immigration Appeals
- Small Claims Court,
- Human Rights Tribunal
- Highway Traffic Offenses
- Notary Public
- Commissioner of Oaths for taking affidavits.
- & more.



CALL FOR CONSULTATION
(416) 799-2106



PETE'S

REAL ESTATE

IS IN BUSINESS OVER 40 YEARS

We can sell your property for the best price on the market

- **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**
- **PROPERTY SALES & RENTALS**
- **REAL ESTATE VALUATION**

A Complete Real Estate Service:

- ✓ **Buying**
- ✓ **Selling**
- ✓ **Rentals**
- ✓ **Tax Compliance**

Contact: 223-6218, 623-7805, 656-5544

WAREHOUSE SALE

Lisa's Cosmetics/Fragrances Inc.



FEATURING Prestige Brand Names

Cosmetics & Skin Treatment Products

- ★ Elizabeth Arden ★ Stila ★ Revlon ★ Uoma Beauty ★ Milani
- ★ Elizabeth Grant ★ Juicy Couture & MANY MORE PRESTIGE COSMETIC BRANDS

Professional Haircare Products

- ★ Joico ★ Wella ★ Nioxin ★ Nexxus ★ Sebastian

Professional Nail Colour and Nail Care

Health & Beauty Products

- ★ Dove ★ Pantene ★ Shea Moisture
- ★ L'Oreal ★ Garnier ★ Nivea ★ Olay ★ Filorga
- ★ Acqua Di Parma ★ Allsaints ★ Ariana Grande
- ★ Armani ★ Azzaro ★ Burberry
- ★ Bvlgari ★ Cacharel ★ Calvin Klein ★ Creed
- ★ Davidoff ★ Diesel ★ Dolce Gabbana
- ★ Ed Hardy ★ Escada ★ Ferragamo
- ★ Givenchy ★ Gucci ★ Guerlain ★ Guess
- ★ Hugo Boss ★ Jean Paul Gaultier ★ Jimmy Choo
- ★ John Varvatos ★ Juicy Couture ★ Juliette Has A Gun
- ★ Kenzo ★ Lacoste ★ Lancome ★ Marc Jacobs
- ★ Michael Kors ★ Mont Blanc ★ Moschino
- ★ Nautica ★ Nina Ricci ★ Paco Rabanne
- ★ Parfums De Marly
- ★ Ralph Lauren ★ Replica
- ★ Serge Lutens
- ★ Thierry Mugler ★ Tom Ford
- ★ Vera Wang ★ Versace
- ★ Yves St. Laurent

**UP TO
80%
SAVINGS**



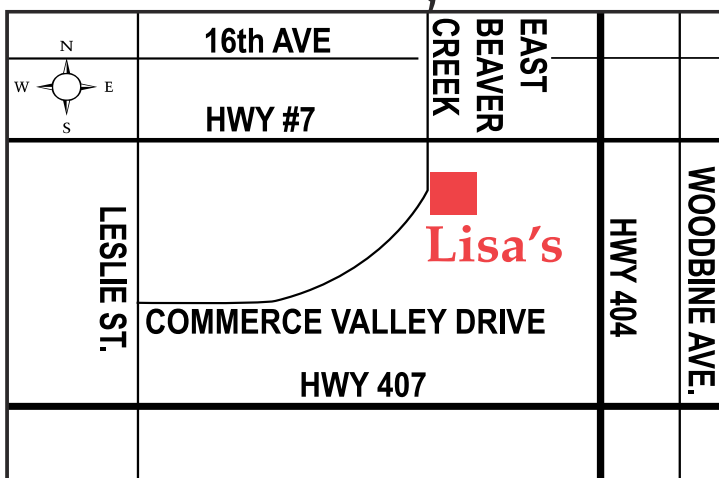
and many more fine fragrances

★ Fine Chocolates
★ Designer Sunglasses

**Perfect
Gifts For
Mother's Day**

WHERE

135 Commerce Valley Dr. East,
Markham, Ont.



HOURS

Saturday
9 am to 6 pm

Sunday
10 am to 6 pm

Monday & Friday
10 am to 8 pm

**NO CHILDREN
UNDER 10 ALLOWED**

WHEN

May 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Please visit our website at www.lisascosmetics.com

Please visit our website at www.lisascosmetics.com

Please visit our website at www.lisascosmetics.com

Please visit our website at www.lisascosmetics.com

Please visit our website at www.lisascosmetics.com

Please visit our website at www.lisascosmetics.com



HOMECOMING YEAR 2026

Come Home to Celebrate!

Be part of history - celebrate Guyana's Diamond Jubilee.

START PLANNING YOUR TRIP NOW!

MAIN EVENTS PERIOD: MAY 15 - MAY 31

Origins
FASHION FESTIVAL

JULY 3-5

Railway Courtyard,
Kingston, Georgetown



Government of Guyana

GUAYANA FESTIVAL

SOUND, SOUL AND TASTE

May 15-17, 2026
Guyana National Stadium, Providence

Be part of the History- celebrate Guyana's Diamond Jubilee.
Three nights. One nation. One unforgettable experience!

<p>17:00 hrs Opening Ceremony Taste of Guyana</p> <p>Fri May 15th</p>	<p>Cultural & Food Extravaganza Night of Legends</p> <p>Sat May 16th</p>	<p>10:00 hrs Festival Cookout 20:00 hrs National Concert (Various Artistes)</p> <p>Sun May 17th</p>
---	--	---

For more information call: 592-219-0089 | [f](#) [@](#) [d](#) [guyanafestival](#)



GNBS Certified. Proven Precision.

Get Accurate Results You Can Trust - Visit Quest Medical Centre Today!
Experience Precision and Care with Our GNBS-Certified Laboratory Services!

129 Laluni & Irving Streets Queenstown, Georgetown, Guyana
Tel. # 225-8382, 223-4125 | WhatsApp: 627-3916