



**CAYMAN ISLANDS
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT
ELECTRONIC VERSION**

2013/14 SESSION

29 May 2013

Swearing In Ceremony

**Hon Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, JP, MLA
Speaker**

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**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT
SWEARING-IN CEREMONY
WEDNESDAY
29 MAY 2013**

[Recording 10:30 AM]

The Clerk: We will invite the Governor into the House at this time to administer the Oath of Due Execution of Office.

**ARRIVAL OF HIS EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR**

The Aide de Camp: His Excellency the Governor. Please rise.

**OATH OF DUE
EXECUTION OF OFFICE**

*Administered by His Excellency the Governor,
Mr. Duncan J. R. Taylor, CBE*

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Deputy Governor

Hon. Franz I Manderson, Cert. Hon., JP., MLA

The Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz I. Manderson: I, Franz I. Manderson, do swear that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly, so help me God.

Attorney General

Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin, QC, JP, MLA

Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin: I, Samuel Washington Bulgin, do swear that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly, so help me God.

ELECTED MEMBERS

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, OBE, JP, MLA
First Elected Member for West Bay

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush: I, William McKeeva Bush, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly.

Ms. Tara A. Rivers, MLA

Second Elected Member for West Bay

Ms. Tara A. Rivers: I, Tara Rivers, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly.

Captain A. Eugene Ebanks, JP, MLA

Fourth Elected Member for West Bay

Capt. A. Eugene Ebanks: I, Captain A. Eugene Ebanks, do swear that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly, so help me God.

Mr. Bernie A. Bush, MLA

Third Elected Member for West Bay

Mr. Bernie A. Bush: I, Bernie Alfredo Bush, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly.

Hon. D. Kurt Tibbetts, OBE, JP, MLA

First Elected Member for George Town

Hon. D. Kurt Tibbetts: I, D. Kurt Tibbetts, do swear that I will well and truly serve the people of the Cayman Islands and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly, so help me God.

Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, MLA

Second Elected Member for George Town

Mr. Roy M. McTaggart: I, Roy McTaggart, do swear that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly, so help me God.

Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr., MBE, JP, MLA

Third Elected Member for George Town

Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: I, Alden M. McLaughlin, Jr., do swear that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly, so help me God.

Mr. Marco S. Archer, MLA
Fourth Elected Member for George Town

Mr. Marco S. Archer: I, Marco Archer, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Winston C. Connolly, Jr., MLA
Fifth Elected Member for George Town

Mr. Winston C. Connolly, Jr.: I, Winston Churchill Connolly, Jr., do swear that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly, so help me God.

Mr. Joseph X. Hew, MLA
Sixth Elected Member for George Town

Mr. Joseph X. Hew: I, Joseph X. Hew, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Moses I. Kirkconnell, JP, MLA
First Elected Member for Cayman Brac and Little Cayman

Mr. Moses I. Kirkconnell: I, Moses Ian Kirkconnell, do swear that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly, so help me God.

Hon. Juliana Y. O'Connor-Connolly, JP, MLA
Second Elected Member for Cayman Brac and Little Cayman

Hon. Juliana Y. O'Connor-Connolly: I, Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Anthony S. Eden, OBE, JP, MLA
First Elected Member for Bodden Town

Mr. Anthony S. Eden: I, Anthony S. Eden, do swear that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly, so help me God.

Mr. Osbourne V. Bodden, JP, MLA
Second Elected Member for Bodden Town

Mr. Osbourne V. Bodden: I, Osbourne V. Bodden, do swear that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly, so help me God.

Mr. G. Wayne Panton, MLA
Third Elected Member for Bodden Town

Mr. G. Wayne Panton: I, Gurney Wayne Panton, do swear that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly, so help me God.

Mr. D. Ezzard Miller, JP, MLA
Elected Member for North Side

Mr. D. Ezzard Miller: I, Dennison Ezzard Miller, do swear that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly, so help me God.

Mr. Alva H. Suckoo, Jr., MLA
Fourth Elected Member for Bodden Town

Mr. Alva H. Suckoo, Jr.: I, Alva H. Suckoo, Jr., do swear that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly, so help me God.

Mr. V. Arden McLean, JP, MLA
Elected Member for East End

Mr. V. Arden McLean: I, Vincent Arden McLean, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the office of Member of the Legislative Assembly.

The Clerk: Please rise.

[Departure of His Excellency the Governor]

The Chairman: Please be seated.

PROCLAMATION NO. 3/2013

The Clerk: Cayman Islands Proclamation No. 3 of 2013 by his Excellency Duncan Taylor, Commander of the most Excellent Order of the British Empire, Governor of the Cayman Islands, Duncan Taylor CBE, Governor:

WHEREAS section 83 (1) of the Constitution of the Cayman Islands provides that the sessions of the Legislative Assembly of the Cayman Islands shall be held at such places and begin at such times as the Governor may from time to time by Proclamation appoint;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Duncan Taylor, CBE, Governor of the Cayman Islands, by virtue of the power conferred upon me by the said section 83 (1) of the Constitution of the Cayman Islands, hereby proclaim that a session of the Legislative Assembly of the Cayman Islands shall be held at the Legislative Assembly Building in George Town, in the Island of Grand Cayman, beginning at 10 am on Wednesday the 29th day of May 2013.

Given under my hand and the public seal of the Cayman Islands at George town, in the Island of Grand Cayman, this 28th day of May, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Thirteen, in the sixty-second year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

NOMINATION OF MEMBER WITH LONGEST UNBROKEN SERVICE IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, THE FATHER OF THE HOUSE, TO PRESIDE OVER THE ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER

The Clerk: I now call for nomination of the Father of the House to preside over the election of Speaker.

Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: I beg to nominate Mr. William. McKeeva Bush, OBE, JP, as the Member who has the longest unbroken service in the Legislative Assembly, and the Father of the House, to preside over the election of the Speaker.

The Clerk: The motion has been duly moved by the Third Elected Member for George Town.
Is there a seconder?

Mr. Moses I. Kirkconnell: I beg to second that nomination.

The Clerk: The motion has been duly seconded by the First Elected Member for Cayman Brac and Little Cayman.

I now put the question that the Hon. W. McKeeva Bush do preside over the proceedings for the election of Speaker.

All those in favour please say Aye. Those against, No.

Ayes.

The Clerk: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Hon. William. McKeeva Bush, OBE, JP, Member with longest unbroken service in the Legislative Assembly, and the Father of the House, to preside over the election of the Speaker.

The Clerk: I now call upon the Father of the House, the Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, to preside over the proceedings for the election of Speaker.

[Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, OBE, JP, Father of the House, Chairman]

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Former Speaker, Hon. Edna M. Moyle, OBE, JP

The Chairman: Honourable Members, I am privileged, as the longest serving Member of this honourable House, to preside over the election of the Speaker of this honourable Legislative Assembly. It is a longstanding position of mine, and it is a longstanding position of the United Democratic Party, that the Speaker can either come from the Members of the Legislative Assembly or from outside.

Before I ask for a nomination for the Speaker, one of our former colleagues, and a former Member and Speaker of this House, has passed on. It behoves us to stand to mark a minute of respect to her. In so doing, I publicly extend condolences to her family, her children and other family members, on behalf of my wife, my mother, myself and other family members. And I ask us to rise for a minute of respect.

[The House rose for a minute of silence in tribute to the late Hon. Edna M. Moyle, OBE, JP, former Member and Speaker of the House]

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush: This motion then, takes cognisance of the passing of the former Speaker, Edna Moyle.

Thank you. You may be seated.

The Clerk: Nominations for the election of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF SPEAKER

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush: Thank you.

Accordingly, as the longest serving Member of this House, in recognition of the Westminster form of

governance I now call for nominations for the Member to be elected as Speaker of this honourable Legislative Assembly. Nominations are now open.

Nomination of Mrs. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly

Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: I beg to nominate Mrs. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, the Second Elected Member for Cayman Brac, as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Cayman Islands.

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush: Thank you.
There is a nomination. Is there a seconder?

Mr. Moses I. Kirkconnell: I beg to second the nomination.

The Chairman: We have a nomination and a seconder of Mrs. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly to be the Honourable Speaker of this Assembly.

Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations?

If there are no more nominations, we can declare her unanimously elected, unless Members chose to cast a ballot. But since there are no more [nominations], I would think that we would do this by affirmation. If Members are content, please say Aye.

AYES.

The Chairman: That's not strong enough, Members.
If Members are content, then please say Aye.

Ayes.

The Chairman: Those against?

[No reply]

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.
Thank you kindly.
Mrs. O'Connor-Connolly, the Second Elected Member for Cayman Brac is the Honourable Speaker.

[Applause]

The Chairman: It is my duty also to invite the Governor, Mr. Duncan J. R. Taylor, CBE, to administer the oath of [affirmation] to the Honourable Speaker.

The Clerk: The question is that this honourable House invite His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Duncan Taylor, CBE, to administer the oath of affirmation to the Honourable Speaker.

The Aide de Camp: His Excellency the Governor.
All rise.

OATH OF AFFIRMATION

Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Administered by His Excellency the Governor

Hon. Juliana Y. O'Connor-Connolly: I, Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, according to Law.

The Clerk: We will take a short suspension to allow the Speaker to prepare herself for the Speaker's procession. Please remain in your seats.
Thank you.

Proceedings suspended

SPEAKER'S PROCESSION

The Serjeant-at-Arms
The Honourable Speaker
The Clerk
The Deputy Clerk

[Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, Speaker, presiding]

The Speaker: Please be seated.
The Legislature of the Cayman Islands is now in session.

STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SPEAKER

The Speaker: It is indeed my distinct honour and privilege to have obtained the confidence of all honourable Members of this House, first and foremost, from the Government Bench under the leadership of the Honourable Premier, and, indeed, I would use this opportunity to thank my constituents of Cayman Brac and Little Cayman.

I believe that it is now time to put the elections behind us and march on towards the dock as the good ship Cayman Islands is about to sail. I am happy to be a part of this next journey and I believe that when we work together we will indeed take this country to the next level.

He, indeed, hath founded it upon the seas. And I have always said that I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ because it is still the power of God and the salvation. So marching in this mandate with a desire to bring our people back to the high way that God wants us to be I have every confidence that every Member here has gained the confidence of their constituents. We are now the Government. Members of the Legislative Assembly, Backbenchers, Opposition and all, let us rise to the challenge and begin a new form a politics so that our children, when we

leave this stage, can look at this juncture as the defining moment in time and would be proud; that egos would be put into a little box, throw away the key, and statesmen and women will rise from these Chambers.

I thank you for this opportunity.

[Applause]

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

The Speaker: The Floor is now open for nominations. I recognise the Honourable Minister, Mr. Bodden.

Mr. Osbourne V. Bodden: Madam Speaker, I beg to nominate the First Elected Member of Bodden Town.

The Speaker: Is there a seconder?

Mr. G. Wayne Panton: Madam Speaker, I beg to second that nomination.

The Speaker: Thank you.
Does the Honourable Member wish to accept the nomination?

Mr. Anthony S. Eden: Yes, Madam Speaker, I do.

The Speaker: Are there any further nominations? [pause] Are there any further nominations? [pause] Are there any further nominations?

If not, it gives me great pleasure to now declare the First Elected Member for the district of Bodden Town, to be the Deputy Speaker of this honourable House.

[Applause]

MOTION

The Speaker: I recognise the Honourable Premier.

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Madam Speaker, I beg to move that His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Duncan J. R. Taylor, CBE, be invited to present the Instruments of Appointment to the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition.

The Speaker: Is there a seconder?
I recognise the Deputy Premier.

The Deputy Premier, Hon. Moses I. Kirkconnell: I beg to second that, Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: The question is that His Excellency the Governor be now invited to present the Instruments of Appointment to the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition.

The House will be suspended for that to occur.

I beg your pardon, the House will be suspended for us to return to the proceedings which will allow the Members and Ministers of Cabinet to be sworn in outside of the Legislative Assembly. Please . . . oh, sorry.

The question is on the Motion that the Honourable Governor comes in. All those in favour please say Aye. Those against, No.

Ayes.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Governor to be invited to administer the Instruments of Appointment to the Premier and Leader of the Opposition.

The Aide de Camp: His Excellency the Governor.
All rise.

INSTRUMENTS OF APPOINTMENT

[Administered by His Excellency the Governor]

PREMIER

His Excellency the Governor: Cayman Islands Constitution Order 2009, Appointment as Premier to Alden McNee McLaughlin, Jr., MLA, MBE, JP: In Exercise of the powers conferred upon me by section 49(1) and (2) of the Cayman Islands Constitution Order 2009, and of all other powers in that regard enabling, I, Duncan Taylor, CBE, Governor of the Cayman Islands, do hereby, by this instrument given under my hand and the public seal, appoint you, the Honourable Alden McNee McLaughlin, Jr., MLA, MBE, JP, to be the Premier with immediate effect.

Congratulations.

[Applause]

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

His Excellency the Governor: Cayman Islands Constitution Order 2009, Appointment as Leader of the Opposition, to William McKeever Bush, MLA, OBE, JP: In exercise of the powers conferred upon me by subsection (5) of section 68 of the Cayman Islands Constitution Order 2009, and of all other powers in that regard enabling, I, Duncan Taylor, CBE, Governor of the Cayman Islands, do hereby, by this instrument given under my hand and the public seal, appoint you, the Honourable William McKeever Bush, MLA, OBE, JP, to be the Leader of Opposition.

[Applause]

[Governor departs]

The Speaker: Please be seated.

I wish to congratulate our Honourable Premier on his appointment, as well as the Honourable Leader of the Opposition. Your challenges are great. We are at an economic and social crossroads in this country. But, with the help of Almighty God, all things are possible, so I would invite you to maximise your potential and do what you do best—represent these beloved Cayman Islands.

At this time the House will now suspend proceedings to allow Members and Ministers of our Cabinet to be sworn in on the outside of the Legislative Assembly. And our lunch break will follow immediately after the swearing in. The House will resume at 2.30 pm

Proceedings suspended at 12:30 pm

[12:47—1:37 pm proceedings conducted outside]

Proceedings resumed at 3:35 pm

**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION
OF MEMBERS TO THE STANDING
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (PAC)**

The Speaker: proceedings are resumed.

The next order of business is the nomination of Members of the Standing Public Accounts Committee (PAC). This Standing Committee that exists is by virtue of Standing Order 77; therefore, there is no need for a motion to establish the said Committee.

First, I will ask the Honourable Premier to read the terms of reference of the Standing Public Accounts Committee.

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Standing Order reads:

77(1): There shall be a standing select committee, to be styled the Public Accounts Committee, to consider the reports of the Auditor General—

- (a) on the accounts of the Government;**
- (b) on such other accounts required to be laid before the House as the committee may think fit; and**
- (c) on any matters incidental to the performance of his duties or the exercise of his powers as the committee may think fit.**

(2) The Public Accounts Committee shall be nominated by the House at the beginning of a new session following the general election and consist of five elected members. The quorum shall be three members, including the chairman.

(3) Upon its receipt by the Speaker, a report mentioned in paragraph (1) shall be deemed to have been referred by the House of the Public

Accounts Committee for consideration and shall forthwith be distributed to all Members and shall become a public document.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Premier.

I will now take nominations for the Standing Public Accounts Committee. The Committee shall be comprised of five members.

I recognise the Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

Hon. W. McKeever Bush, Leader of the Opposition and First Elected Member for West Bay: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I move the nomination of the Second [Elected] Member for George Town, Mr. [Roy] McTaggart to be Chairperson of the Committee.

The Speaker: Is there a seconder?

Mr. Bernie A. Bush: Second Elected Member for West Bay: Madam [Speaker], I beg to second the motion.

The Speaker: Second Elected Member for George Town, do you accept the nomination?

Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Second Elected Member for George Town: Madam Speaker, I am delighted to. Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you.

Are there any further nominations?

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Madam Speaker, I beg to nominate the following as members of the Public Accounts Committee:

- Fourth Elected Member for Bodden Town
- Sixth Elected Member for George Town
- First Elected Member for West Bay and Leader of the Opposition
- First Elected Member for Bodden Town

The Speaker: Thank you.

Are there any further nominations? Are there any further nominations?

Hon. W. McKeever Bush, Leader of the Opposition: Madam Speaker, just to make an inquiry.

The Speaker: Leader of the Opposition.

Hon. W. McKeever Bush, Leader of the Opposition: Is the Government saying that they want the First [Elected] Member for Bodden Town, the Fourth [Elected] Member for Bodden Town, and the Sixth [Elected] Member for George Town? Three Members?

The Speaker: Honourable Leader of the Opposition, I have the Fourth [Elected] Member for Bodden Town, the Sixth [Elected] Member for George Town, the First [Elected] Member for West Bay and Leader of the Opposition, and the First [Elected] Member for Bodden Town, together with your nomination, the Second [Elected] Member for George Town, comprising the five Members of the PAC.

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, Leader of the Opposition: Madam Speaker, I hear what the Government is saying, and since I am not making a nomination but, rather, am speaking to the nomination . . . we have talked about entering a new age a new era, and we talked about the good governance we want and the good open transparency. I admit that there is nothing stopping Government, as it has been normal for the Governments to have three and two, but I am wondering whether, in the spirit that all seem to want to go in, we should not have one of the Independent [Members] as a member of the PAC. It is a very important committee, and I believe it would be a more balanced committee to have it that way.

The Speaker: Honourable Member, are you requesting the Government to consult, or are you making a nomination in your own right?

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, Leader of the Opposition: I would ask the Government to re-look at their proposal of the three Members, to have one of the Independent [Members] sit on the Committee.

[Inaudible interjection]

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, Leader of the Opposition: Yes.

[Inaudible interjections]

The Speaker: Honourable Premier?

[Pause]

The Speaker: Honourable Premier.

I recognise the First Elected Member for Bodden Town.

Hon. Anthony S. Eden, Deputy Speaker, First Elected Member for Bodden Town: Madam Speaker, in light of what has transpired I will decline the nomination.

The Speaker: Thank you, honourable Member.

Honourable Premier, would you do the fifth nomination?

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Madam Speaker, I beg to nominate the Fifth Elected Member for George Town.

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, Leader of the Opposition: Fifth? Is that not the same thing?

Not sitting on that side. No, no, no, no.

No, Madam Speaker, let's be very clear and not play around. I am speaking in regard to the Member for North Side or the Member for East End to make it a more balanced Public Accounts Committee to go forward. I still see the Government as having three Members.

The Member sits on the Government side, and it seems to me that you cannot sit over there and be something else. I mean you have to be fish or fowl, you cannot be both. And I certainly won't vote for that.

The Speaker: Honourable Premier.

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Madam Speaker, we are prepared to be concessionary, but I think what the Honourable Leader of the Opposition is asking for really is expecting too much.

The nomination stands.

The Speaker: I recognise the Third Elected Member for West Bay.

[Inaudible interjection]

The Speaker: Okay. All right!

If there are no more nominations—

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, Leader of the Opposition: Madam Speaker, I beg to nominate the Member for North Side to be a member of the Public Accounts Committee.

The Speaker: Is there a seconder?

I recognise the [Second] Elected Member for West Bay.

Mr. Bernie A. Bush: Madam Speaker—I correctly said it this time. Sorry about the first time, Ma'am.

The Speaker: That's okay.

Mr. Bernie A. Bush: I second the [nomination] of the Member for North Side [to be a member of the PAC.]

The Speaker: Are there any other nominations?

Does the Member for North Side wish to accept the nomination?

Mr. D. Ezzard Miller, Elected Member for North Side: Yes, Madam Speaker, I will accept the nomination. And I beg to nominate the Member for East End.

The Speaker: Is there a seconder?

Mr. Roy M. McTaggart: Madam Speaker, I rise to second the nomination.

The Speaker: Members, as there are more than five persons now nominated, it will take a few minutes for the Clerk to prepare a ballot. We will suspend for five minutes. Please remain in your seats for the preparation of the ballots.

[pause]

The Speaker: They are checking the procedure about the appointment of scrutineers. That is why I momentarily left the Chamber. I recognise that I need to ask the Sixth Elected Member for George Town whether he accepts the nomination, as well as the Member for East End.

I will ask the Sixth Elected Member for George Town whether or not he accepts the nomination.

Mr. Joseph X. Hew, Sixth Elected Member for George Town: Madam Speaker, I humbly accept.

The Speaker: Thank you.

Elected Member for East End, do you accept the nomination?

Mr. V. Arden McLean, Elected Member for East End: Madam Speaker, I accept the nomination.

The Speaker: Thank you.

We will wait [while] the Clerk brings in the ballots.

Honourable Members, out of an abundance of caution, does the Second Elected Member for George Town accept the nomination?

Mr. Roy M. McTaggart: Yes, Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: The Fourth Elected Member for Bodden Town, do you accept the nomination?

Mr. Alva H. Suckoo, Jr., Fourth Elected Member for Bodden Town: Madam Speaker, yes, I accept.

The Speaker: The First Elected Member for West Bay, do you accept the nomination?

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, Leader of the Opposition: Madam Speaker, yes, I do.

The Speaker: I believe I have already checked with the Fourth Elected Member for Bodden Town.

Point of Clarification

Hon. Osbourne V. Bodden, Minister of Health, Sports, Youth and Culture: Madam Speaker, point of clarification: When we had the original change, I thought we moved to the Fifth Elected Member for George Town, instead of the Sixth.

[Inaudible interjections]

The Speaker: Honourable Minister, I have:

- Second [Elected Member] for George Town
- Fourth [Elected Member] for Bodden Town
- Sixth [Elected Member] for George Town
- First [Elected Member] for West Bay
- Fifth [Elected Member] for George Town
- [Elected Member] for North Side
- [Elected Member] for East End

[Inaudible interjection]

The Speaker: I call on the Fifth Elected Member for George Town. Do you accept the nomination, sir?

Mr. Winston C. Connolly, Jr., Fifth Elected Member for George Town: Madam Speaker, I do accept it.

The Speaker: I thank you.

[Long Pause]

The Speaker: Honourable Members, the ballot papers are now prepared and the ballot box is here. I am going to ask the Serjeant if he would ensure that all Members have an opportunity to look at the ballot box and ensure that it is free and clear.

While he is doing that, we are also going to have two scrutineers, the Official Members of the House. We are going to ask the Deputy Governor and the Attorney General to come and take their positions, please.

Once the Serjeant has completed his exercise the ballot papers will be distributed and Members may vote for no more than five members of the Public Accounts Committee. Once you have done that, I would recommend that you fold your paper, and, as the ballot box comes back around, place it in so as to maintain the secrecy of the ballot, if that is your desire.

The ballot box has now been locked.

[Addressing the Serjeant] Please distribute.

Out of an abundance of caution I had better say that you can vote once per person. One person cannot get five votes.

[Pause]

The Speaker: If Members have completed the ballot, please indicate so that the Serjeant can collect it and we can do a tally.

[Long Pause]

The Speaker: Order. The Clerk wishes to conduct the conclusion of this. Thank you.

At this time I will ask the Honourable Clerk of the House to read the results.

The Clerk: *[Reading each ballot paper]*

1. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Mr. Joseph Hew, Hon. McKeeva Bush, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Winston Connolly.
2. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Mr. Joseph Hew, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Ezzard Miller, Mr. Winston Connolly.
3. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Mr. Joseph Hew, Hon. McKeeva Bush, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Winston Connolly.
4. Hon. McKeeva Bush, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Ezzard Miller, Mr. Arden McLean, Mr. Winston Connolly.
5. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Mr. Joseph Hew, Hon. McKeeva Bush, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Winston Connolly.
6. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Mr. Joseph Hew, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Arden McLean, Mr. Winston Connolly.
7. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Mr. Joseph Hew, Hon. McKeeva Bush, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Winston Connolly.
8. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Mr. Joseph Hew, Hon. McKeeva Bush, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Winston Connolly.
9. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Hon. McKeeva Bush, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Ezzard Miller, Mr. Arden McLean.
10. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Mr. Joseph Hew, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Arden McLean, Mr. Winston Connolly.
11. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Mr. Joseph Hew, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Winston Connolly.
12. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Mr. Joseph Hew, Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Winston Connolly.
13. Hon. McKeeva Bush, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Ezzard Miller, Mr. Arden McLean, Mr. Winston Connolly.
14. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Hon. McKeeva Bush, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Ezzard Miller, Mr. Arden McLean.
15. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Mr. Joseph Hew, Hon. McKeeva Bush, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Winston Connolly.
16. Mr. Alva Suckoo, Hon. McKeeva Bush, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Ezzard Miller, Mr. Arden McLean.
17. Hon. McKeeva Bush, Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Mr. Ezzard Miller, Mr. Arden McLean, Mr. Winston Connolly.

[Pause]

The Speaker: Thank you, scrutineers, for assisting the process.

[Pause]

RESULT OF BALLOTS

The Speaker: The result of the voting is as follows:

Mr. Alva H. Suckoo	14
Mr. Joseph X. Hew	11
Hon. W. McKeeva Bush	13
Mr. Roy M. McTaggart	17
Mr. D. Ezzard Miller	7
Mr. V. Arden McLean	[8]
Mr. Winston C. Connolly, Jr.	[14]

The Speaker: The Members of the Public Accounts Committee are as follows:

1. Mr. Alva H. Suckoo
2. Mr. Joseph X. Hew
3. Hon. W. McKeeva Bush
4. Mr. Roy M. McTaggart
5. Mr. Winston C. Connolly, Jr.

In accordance with the provision of Standing Order 70(2), I nominate Mr. Roy M. McTaggart as the Chairman of the Standing Public Accounts Committee.

[Applause]

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE STANDING REGISTER OF INTERESTS COMMITTEE

The Speaker: The next order of business is the nomination of Members for the Standing Register of Interest Committee. This is a Standing Committee that also exists under Standing Order 76. Therefore, there is no need for a motion to establish the said Committee.

Firstly, I would ask the Honourable Premier to read the terms of reference of the Standing Register of Interest Committee.

I recognise the Honourable Premier.

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Madam Speaker, the terms of reference of the Register of Interest Committee, Standing Order 76(1):

76. (1) There shall be a standing select committee to be styled the Register of Interests Committee for the consideration of matters relating to the Register of Interests referred to it by the Registrar of Interests.

(2) The Committee shall consist of nine Members including the chairman all of whom shall

be nominated by the House at the beginning of a new session following a General Election.

(3) The quorum of the committee shall be five Members including the chairman.

(4) There shall be a Registrar of Interests who shall keep a Register of Interests in accordance with the Register of Interests Law, 1996.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Premier.

I will now take nominations for the Standing Register of Interest Committee.

I recognise the Honourable Premier.

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Madam Speaker, I beg to nominate the following [Members]:

- Third Elected Member for Bodden Town, as chairman
- Fourth Elected Member for George Town
- Second Elected Member for Bodden Town
- Sixth Elected Member for George Town
- First Elected Member for George Town
- Third Elected Member for West Bay
- Fourth Elected Member for West Bay
- Fifth Elected Member for George Town
- Second Elected Member for George Town

The Speaker: Thank you.

Are there any further nominations? [pause]

Are there any further nominations? [pause] Are there any further nominations? [pause]

Does the Third Elected Member for Bodden Town accept the nomination?

Hon. G. Wayne Panton, Minister of Financial Services, Commerce and Environment: Madam Speaker, I do. Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you.

Does the Fourth Elected Member for George Town accept the nomination?

Hon. Marco S. Archer, Minister of Finance and Economic Development: Madam Speaker, I do.

The Speaker: Does the Second Elected Member for Bodden Town accept the nomination?

Hon. Osbourne V. Bodden, Minister of Health, Sports, Youth, and Culture: Yes, Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: Thank you.

The Sixth Elected Member for George Town, do you accept the nomination?

Mr. Joseph X. Hew: Yes, Madam Speaker, I accept the nomination.

The Speaker: The First Elected Member for George Town, do you accept the nomination?

Hon. D. Kurt Tibbetts, Minister of Planning, Agriculture, Housing and Infrastructure: Yes, Madam Speaker, under duress, but I do.

The Speaker: I'm not sure whether I should say thank you or not. But thank you anyway.

Does the Third Elected Member for West Bay accept the nomination?

Mr. Bernie A. Bush: Yes, Madam Speaker, I do.

The Speaker: The Fourth Elected Member for West Bay, do you accept the nomination?

Capt. A. Eugene Ebanks: Yes, Madam Speaker, I accept.

The Speaker: The Fifth Elected Member for George Town, do you accept the nomination.

Mr. Winston C. Connolly, Jr.: Yes, Madam Speaker, I do.

The Speaker: The Second Elected Member for George Town, do you accept the nomination?

Mr. Roy M. McTaggart: Madam Speaker, I do.

The Speaker: There being no further nominations, I declare the following Members to be members of the Standing Register of Interest Committee:

- Third Elected Member for Bodden Town
- Fourth Elected Member for George Town
- Second Elected Member for Bodden Town
- Sixth Elected Member for George Town
- First Elected Member for George Town
- Third Elected Member for West Bay
- Fourth Elected Member for West Bay
- Fifth Elected Member for George Town
- Second Elected Member for George Town

In accordance with the provision of Standing Order 70(2) I nominate the Minister responsible for Financial Services, the Third Elected Member for Bodden Town, to be the Chairman.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MOTIONS

GOVERNMENT MOTION NO. 1—APPOINTMENT OF STANDING BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Speaker: I now recognise the Honourable Deputy Governor.

The Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz I. Manderson: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I rise to move Government Motion No. 1—Appointment of the Standing Business Committee. The Motion reads as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 79, this House appoints a Standing Business Committee charged with deciding the order of business of the House and, in particular –

- (a) to consider the Business Papers of the House;**
- (b) to decide and inform the Clerk the order in which Private Members' Motions are to be debated on;**
- (c) to decide and to inform the Clerk two clear days before a Question Day the questions to be put down for reply on the Order Paper for that Question Day;**
- (d) to provide a ready means of consultation between Members who are not Members of the Cabinet, and the Leader of Government Business, the Leader of the Opposition, the Presiding Officer and the Clerk;**
- (e) to select a Member to read Prayers on each day of a Meeting of the House other than the State Opening Meeting;**
- (f) to inform the Clerk the order in which Bills shall be set down upon the Order Paper;**

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Standing Business Committee shall comprise five Elected Members;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the quorum for the Committee shall be three Members of the Committee including the Chairman and that the Committee shall meet at such times as called by the Chairman;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Committee review its terms of reference and report any recommendations to this Honourable House.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member.

The Motion has been duly moved and is now open for debate.

Honourable Premier.

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Madam Speaker, I am not sure about much debate, but I wish to nominate—on my part, anyhow, let me not be presumptuous—the following as members of the Standing Business Committee.

The Speaker: Honourable Premier, let me just complete the resolve section and then we will move to the nominations.

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: I'm sorry, Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: That's okay.

If there is no debate I will put the question.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Standing Business Committee shall comprise five Elected Members;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the quorum for the Committee shall be three Members of the Committee including the Chairman and that the Committee shall meet at such times as called by the Chairman;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Committee review its terms of reference and report any recommendations to this Honourable House.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No..

Ayes.

The Speaker: The Ayes Have it.

Agreed: Government Motion No. 1 passed.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO STANDING BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Speaker: I now call for the nominations to the Standing Business Committee. Five members comprise the membership of the Committee.

I recognise the Honourable Premier.

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Madam Speaker, I beg to move the following nominations on behalf of the Government:

- Third Elected Member for George Town, Premier
- First Elected Member for Cayman Brac [and Little Cayman], Deputy Premier
- Fifth Elected Member for George Town
- First Elected Member for West Bay, Leader of the Opposition
- Third Elected Member for West Bay

The Speaker: Are there any further nominations? [pause] Are there any further nominations? [pause] Are there any further nominations? [pause]

There being no further nominations, I declare the following Members to be the members of the Standing Business Committee . . . but before I make the declaration, can the Honourable Premier indicate whether or not he wishes to accept the nomination?

Do you accept the nomination sir, which is pretty obvious?

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Yes Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: Thank you.

The Honourable Deputy Premier, do you accept the nomination?

The Deputy Premier, Hon. Moses I. Kirkconnell: Yes, Madam Speaker, I do.

The Speaker: Thank you.

Fifth Elected Member for George Town, do you accept the nomination?

Mr. Winston C. Connolly, Jr.: Yes, Madam Speaker, I do.

The Speaker: Honourable Leader of the Opposition, do you accept the nomination?

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, Leader of the Opposition: Thank you, Madam Speaker, I do.

The Speaker: Third Elected Member for West Bay, do you accept the nomination?

Mr. Bernie A. Bush: Yes, Madam Speaker, I do.

The Speaker: Thank you.

I now declare the following Members to be the members of the Standing Business Committee:

- Third Elected Member for George Town, Premier
- First Elected Member for Cayman Brac [and Little Cayman], Deputy Premier
- Fifth Elected Member for George Town
- First Elected Member for West Bay, Leader of the Opposition
- Third Elected Member for West Bay

In accordance with Standing Order 70(2) I nominate the Honourable Premier to be the Chairman of the Standing Business Committee.

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: Honourable Premier.

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: I am grateful to the Leader of the Opposition for pointing out to me that we did not name a deputy, which is the practice in relation to this Committee. I can do that inside the Committee. Fine!

The Speaker: I was going to [inaudible]

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Fine.

The Speaker: Honourable Premier, in light of the fact that the Motion has been taken and passed, I would strongly urge Members to give positive consideration

to selecting a deputy from within the membership of the Committee at its first meeting.

GOVERNMENT MOTION NO. 2—APPOINTMENT OF STANDING HOUSE COMMITTEE

The Speaker: I recognise the Honourable Deputy Governor. Motion No. 2.

The Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz I. Manderson: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I rise to present Government Motion No. 2—Appointment of the Standing House Committee. The Motion reads as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 79, this House appoints a Standing House Committee charged with the duty to make recommendations to the House in respect of –

- (a) matters affecting the working conditions, comfort and facilities for Members during Meetings of the House;
- (b) matters affecting the working conditions, comfort and facilities for the Officers of the House;
- (c) the operation and maintenance of the library of the House and the provision of research facilities;
- (d) the maintenance, upkeep, furnishing and equipment of the Legislative Assembly building and its precincts;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Standing House Committee shall comprise five Elected Members, one of whom shall be elected by the Members of the Committee as Chairman and one as Deputy Chairman;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the quorum for the Committee shall be three Members of the Committee including the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Committee review its terms of reference and report any recommendations to this Honourable House.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Governor.

The Motion has been duly moved and is now open for debate. *[Pause]*

If there is no debate, I will put the question: **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Standing House Committee shall comprise five Elected Members, one of whom shall be elected by the Members of the Committee as Chairman and one as Deputy Chairman;**

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the quorum for the Committee shall be three Members of

the Committee including the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Committee review its terms of reference and report any recommendations to this Honourable House.

All those in favour, please say Aye, those against, No.

Ayes.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Government Motion No. 2 passed.

The Speaker: I will now call for nominations to the Standing House Committee. Five Members comprise the membership of this Committee.

Honourable Premier.

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Madam Speaker, I beg to nominate:

- Fourth Elected Member for Bodden Town
- Fifth Elected Member for George Town
- Fourth Elected Member for West Bay
- Third Elected Member for West Bay
- Elected Member for East End

The Speaker: Thank you.

Does the honourable Fourth Elected Member for Bodden Town accept the nomination?

Mr. Alva H. Suckoo, Jr.: Yes, Madam Speaker, I accept.

The Speaker: Thank you.

Honourable Fifth Elected Member for George Town, do you accept the nomination?

Mr. Winston C. Connolly, Jr.: Madam Speaker, I do.

The Speaker: Thank you.

Honourable Fourth Elected Member for West Bay, do you accept the nomination?

Capt. A. Eugene Ebanks: Madam Speaker, I accept.

The Speaker: Thank you.

Third Elected Member for West Bay, do you accept the nomination?

Mr. Bernie A. Bush: Yes, Madam Speaker, I accept.

The Speaker: Member for East End, do you accept the nomination?

Mr. V. Arden McLean: Madam Speaker, I accept, even though I don't know anything about it.

The Speaker: You don't know about the nomination or the Committee?

[No audible reply]

The Speaker: The nomination?

[No audible reply]

The Speaker: Okay.

With there being no further nominations, I declare the following Members to be members of the Standing House Committee:

- Fourth Elected Member for Bodden Town
- Fifth Elected Member for George Town
- Fourth Elected Member for West Bay
- Third Elected Member for West Bay
- The Elected Member for East End

Moment of interruption—4.30 pm

The Speaker: Honourable Premier, we have now reached the hour of interruption, can I have you move Standing Order 10(2)?

Suspension of Standing Order 10(2)

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Madam Speaker, pursuant to Order 10(2) of the Standing Orders of this honourable House, I move the adjournment of this honourable House sine die.

[Inaudible interjections]

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Madam Speaker, I am afraid that I am a bit tired. I want to go home.

No, Madam Speaker, correction: I move that Standing Order 10(2) be suspended in order that proceedings in this House may continue beyond the hour of interruption.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Premier.

The question is that Standing Order 10(2) be suspended to allow the proceedings to continue beyond the hour of 4.30 pm.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

Ayes and one audible No.

The Speaker: I believe the Ayes have it. The business of the House will continue beyond the hour of 4.30 pm.

Agreed: Standing Order 10(2) suspended.

GOVERNMENT MOTION NO. 3—APPOINTMENT OF STANDING SELECT COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES

The Speaker: I recognise the Honourable Deputy Governor.

The Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz I. Manderson: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I beg to move Government Motion No. 3—Appointment of the Standing Select Committee on Privileges. The Motion reads as follows:

WHEREAS Standing Order 79 provides that this Honourable House may appoint other standing select committees as required from among its Members;

AND WHEREAS on the 19th day of March 1998 this Honourable House established the Standing Select Committee on Privileges by way of Private Member's Motion No. 3/98;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 79, this House appoints a Standing Select Committee of Privileges to consider and report to the House on any matter affecting the privileges of this Honourable House;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Committee comprise all Honourable Members of this Legislative Assembly, the Chairman being elected from among the Committee Members;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Committee shall elect a Deputy Chairman from among the Committee Members who shall act as Chairman of the Committee during the absence of the Chairman.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, Deputy Governor.

The Motion has been duly moved and is open for debate. Does any Member wish to speak thereon? [pause] Does any Member wish to speak? [pause] Does any Member wish to speak? If not, I will put the question.

The question is: **BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 79, this House appoints a Standing Select Committee of Privileges to consider and report to the House on any matter affecting the privileges of this Honourable House;**

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Committee comprise all Honourable Members of this Legislative Assembly, the Chairman being elected from among the Committee Members;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Committee shall elect a Deputy Chairman from among the Committee Members who shall act as Chairman of the Committee during the absence of the Chairman.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

Ayes.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Government Motion No. 3 passed.

The Speaker: Madam Clerk, can we have Government No. 4, the Appointment of the Select Committee?

GOVERNMENT MOTION NO. 4—APPOINTMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE THE PERFORMANCE OF THE OFFICE OF THE COMPLAINTS COMMISSIONER

The Speaker: I recognise the Honourable Deputy Governor.

The Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz I. Manderson: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I beg to move Government Motion No.4—Appointment of the Select Committee to oversee the performance of the Office of the Complaints Commissioner. The Motion reads as follows:

WHEREAS section 28 of the Public Management and Finance (Amendment) Law, 2004, states that the Complaints Commissioner shall be accountable to the Legislative Assembly for the performance of the Office of the Complaints Commissioner;

AND WHEREAS Section 28 of the said Law provides that a Committee of the Legislative Assembly be responsible for overseeing the performance of the Office of the Complaints Commissioner, or if no such Committee exists, the Speaker shall be responsible for same;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly appointed a Select Committee to be responsible for overseeing the performance of the Office of the Complaints Commissioner on 14th September 2005 by way of Government Motion No. 3/2005;

BE IT NOW THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Committee shall comprise five Elected Members;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the quorum for the Committee shall be three Members of the Committee including the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Governor.

The Motion has been duly moved and is now open for debate. [Pause]

If there is no debate I will put the question. The question is: **BE IT NOW THEREFORE RE-**

SOLVED THAT the Committee shall comprise five Elected Members; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the quorum for the Committee shall be three Members of the Committee including the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

Ayes.

Agreed: Government Motion No. 4 passed.

The Speaker: I will now call for nominations for the Select Committee to oversee the performance of the Office of the Complaints Commissioner.

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I beg to nominate the following Members:

- Elected Member for North Side, as Chairman
- Fourth Elected Member for West Bay
- Second Elected Member for George Town
- Fourth Elected Member for Bodden Town
- Third Elected Member for West Bay

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Premier.

Does the Elected Member for North Side accept the nomination?

Mr. D. Ezzard Miller: Yes, Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: The Fourth Elected Member for West Bay, do you accept the nomination?

Capt. A. Eugene Ebanks: I accept, Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: The Second Member for George Town, do you accept the nomination?

Mr. Roy M. McTaggart: Yes, Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: The Fourth Elected Member for Bodden Town, do you accept the nomination?

Mr. Alva H. Suckoo: Madam Speaker, yes, I accept.

The Speaker: Third Elected Member for West Bay, do you accept the nomination?

Mr. Bernie A. Bush: Madam Speaker, I accept.

The Speaker: There being no further nominations, I declare the following Members to be the members of the Select Committee to oversee the performance of the Office of the Complaints Commissioner.

- Elected Member for North Side
- Fourth Elected Member for West Bay
- Second Elected Member for George Town
- Fourth Elected Member for Bodden Town

- Third Elected Member for West Bay

The Speaker: I recognise the Honourable Premier to move a motion for the adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Madam Speaker, before I move the adjournment of this honourable House sine die, I just wish to indicate to the new Members of this House (who may not be familiar with the process) that, on the adjournment, the practice and tradition over the years on the occasion of the swearing-in has been to allow Members an opportunity to say a few words—some say more than a few—to thank their supporters and now constituents and so forth, and to say whatever it is they feel they should say on such an auspicious occasion.

The practice is that we move the adjournment of the House, but before the vote is taken, Members are allowed an opportunity to rise and give their speeches. I just wanted to say that because the process is a bit alien to those who have not been in parliament.

Madam Speaker, with those few words I move the adjournment of this honourable House sine die.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Premier.

At this time the Chair will allow Honourable Members, if they so wish, to rise to give their words and expressions of gratitude to the relevant persons, including, but not limited to, your constituents.

For those Members who are here for the first time, recognition is given either by holding your microphone or standing.

I recognise the Third Elected Member for the district of West Bay.

MEMBERS' SPEECHES

Mr. Bernie A. Bush: Thank you. Madam Speaker, I stand here today a very humble man. I would like to take time to thank the people of West Bay for giving me the opportunity to serve my beloved country and my district.

It is said that before you can lead you must first learn to serve. I want everyone to know in every district that Bernie Bush is here to serve everyone who calls these Islands home, and I do that without fear or favour.

I would like to say a special thank you to those who voted for me, and also to those who did not. For those who voted for me, thanks for your trust. For those who did not, thank you in advance for giving me the opportunity to earn your trust. I will work hard and you can count on me to do the right thing. If something good is brought before this honourable House that will benefit the country and our people, I will support it, regardless of [which Member] brings it

to the table. But if it is not good, I will let the country know why I am not supporting it.

To our committee in West Bay, your hard work and dedication will always be appreciated. To my fellow Members in here, let us all work together.

May God bless you all, and may he continue to bless these beloved Islands.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, Third Elected Member for West Bay.

I recognise the Second Elected Member for West Bay, who is now an honourable Minister.

Hon. Tara A. Rivers, Minister of Education, Employment and Gender Affairs: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I, too, would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude. First of all I would like to thank God for His goodness and mercies to bring me thus far. As the Third Elected Member for West Bay said, I also feel very humbled by being in the presence of great men and a great woman, and I commit to serving the interests of the people of this country as an independent thinker, and I continue to support the idea that we all need to work together for the betterment of this country.

I would also like to echo the sentiments expressed earlier that even though I am on the Government Bench, per se, I will do my part to make sure that what we do bring to the House is for the best interest of the country. And in whatever capacity I can act as a Minister, I will ensure that I also scrutinise and debate whatever issues that need to be debated before we actually bring it to the House, to the best of my ability. So, I am here to serve and look forward to having a very successful career in the ministerial position that I have been tasked with.

I would also like to thank my committee tremendously for all of their efforts to get to this point. We did it! I would like to say thank you to my family and lastly, but certainly not the least, thank you to the district of West Bay and the faith they had in me to decide that I should be one of the four representatives that they choose to elect to serve them. As the votes counted in the district at the time showed, I do intend to be that bridge that gaps many different political philosophies and political persuasions. And I am hoping that we can continue to do just that as we take the honourable business of this House forward and move this country forward.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Minister.

Does any other Member wish to speak?

Fifth Elected Member for the district of George Town.

Mr. Winston C. Connolly, Jr.: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Honourable Members, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my constituents for allowing me the opportunity to represent them in this House. I would also like to publicly thank the committee that worked so hard to put me forward, because they did work tirelessly in that effort.

I would also like to thank the Premier for allowing Independents the opportunity to sit on the Government side and give our objective and impartial input. I think that is unprecedented, and I would like to acknowledge him for that.

I would also like to thank my wife and family for the sacrifice that they have put in over the last several months and the sacrifice that they will again continue to put in in this endeavour of me serving my country.

I think that as a collective group we can move the country forward to where it needs to be, and I trust that each of us will bear that in mind (i.e., the best interest of the Cayman Islands) whenever we make a decision.

I would just like to close by saying that I promise to always be fair, impartial and objective in any of my decisions. May God bless this honourable House and these Cayman Islands.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, Member.

Does any other Member wish to speak?

I recognise the Sixth Elected Member for the district of George Town.

Mr. Joseph X. Hew: Madam Speaker, first let me give thanks to our God for His mercies and for all of the blessings and strength that He has bestowed on each of us here today so that we may serve these Islands and its people in His name.

I would like to thank my wife and my entire family for all of their support over the past few months, and for agreeing to take this journey with me. And to the voting public, in particular to those who supported and voted for me, I say thank you for exercising your democratic right to vote and for participating in these so-very-important elections. I trust in God that I will serve all of you well and that I will be the best representative that I can be.

The country has spoken by electing those that they believe to be the best persons to represent their needs and to plan the course of the future for all generations to come. I say congratulations to all of you here in this honourable House and I pray that we will remember the charge and opportunity given to us by our constituents and that we may base every decision and action on their wishes.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, honourable Member.

I recognise the Fourth Elected Member for the district of West Bay.

Capt. A. Eugene Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I, too, would like to take this opportunity to thank the good people of West Bay, my entire family and the hardworking committee that we have in West Bay for affording me the opportunity to serve this fourth consecutive term.

I owe a debt of gratitude to the people who have entrusted their confidence in me, and I want to thank them sincerely. I will not let them down, just as I have not in the past 12 years. I trust that with us working together with all Members in the House we can move this country forward.

Madam Speaker, I thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, honourable Member.

Does any other Member wish to speak?

The Fourth Elected Member for Bodden Town.

Mr. Alva H. Suckoo, Jr.: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Just to keep it brief, as well, I just want to start by giving thanks to God for getting me here, and to the people of Bodden Town for their confidence and trust in me. And also for my friends, family and all the committee members in Bodden Town that helped us throughout the organisation. As a matter of fact, all of those volunteers who gave selflessly to help us get where we are today.

I think that we are now arriving at a time when we have to think about healing and bringing this country back together. Elections have a way of tearing people apart, making people point out each other's differences and disagreements. I think we all owe it to the country now to give it our best effort to bring the country back together and work together for what is right and what is best for this country.

I take my responsibilities extremely seriously, and I know that this is not just something that comes easily. I had to work very hard to get here, and I am very grateful to my running mates in Bodden Town for pulling me along with them, for giving me their support, and being there for me when the campaign got tough. But we are here now, we are committed, and I give you my commitment that I will work to the best of my ability within this House to do what I promised to do on the campaign trail.

Thank you very much.

The Speaker: Thank you, honourable Member.

Does any other Member wish to speak?

The Fourth Elected Member for George Town, now Honourable Minister of Finance.

Hon. Marco S. Archer, Minister of Finance and Economic Development: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I would like to give thanks to God for appointing me to the office which I now hold, and [for] the privilege to now serve the people of George Town and the Cayman Islands.

I would also like to thank my wife, Tammy, for her unwavering support during the campaign. Also my mother for encouraging me to go out and do what I had in mind; and my siblings and friends for their encouragement as well.

I also give thanks to my church and the many persons who prayed for me and still continue to do so.

I would also like to thank everyone in the Progressive Party, including my fellow running mates, the administrative staff and the volunteers. Thank you all for playing a part in our success.

Finally, to everyone who voted for me and my colleagues, as well as those who could not vote for us, but encouraged others to do so, I say thank you.

Madam Speaker, I recognise that there is much to be done and little time to do so, but, by the grace of God Almighty, and through the participation of the people of the Cayman Islands, we will restore the social and economic wellbeing of our people and our country.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Minister of Finance.

Does any other Member wish to speak?

The Second Elected Member for the district of George Town.

Mr. Roy M. McTaggart: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

A very hearty congratulations to my other 17 colleagues in this esteemed House. For me, truly, it is a privilege to be here this afternoon and to be a part of this historic day.

I would first like to give thanks to God for His mercy and for His part in bringing us to where we are today. I would also like to thank the people of George Town who found it fit to place me in this honourable House. I would like to also thank my committee who worked unstintingly to support me in all that I was doing and trying to accomplish.

I would also like to thank my wife, who stood behind me through thick and thin, and my family, as well, who supported this effort. It has been two generations now since we have had a McTaggart in the House. And many will remember my name's sake, the late Dr. Roy Edison McTaggart from the [40s]. That is the type of legacy I hope I can . . . I know [they are] big shoes to try and fill, but I want to pledge my commitment to this House that I will always do my best to give my best intellect to any issue that comes before this House, and always seek to do what is right for the

people of the Cayman Islands, and to always seek to do their best interest.

I pledge my commitment to always be here and to participate fully in every matter that comes before this House. I look forward to working with each of my other colleagues in this honourable House.

Thank you very much.

The Speaker: Thank you, honourable Member.

Does any other Member wish to speak?

The Elected Member for the district of North Side.

Mr. D. Ezzard Miller: Madam Speaker, first of all let me congratulate the new Government and wish them well. I pledge to give them all the support I can, but equally to oppose them at any time that I think I need to.

Let me take the opportunity to thank the good people of North Side for giving me the opportunity to represent them for another four years.

I thank my family for their support, particularly my wife and five-year-old daughter, who I will never forget the glee in [her words]—*daddy won, daddy won, daddy won*. I pledge to serve the people, represent the people of this country to the best of my abilities at all times.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, honourable Member.

The Elected Member for East End.

Mr. V. Arden McLean: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, let me first welcome all these young Turks. What a day! Seven new ones, I believe . . . eight new ones.

[Inaudible interjection]

Mr. V. Arden McLean: Or nine? I've lost count of how many there are.

[Inaudible interjection]

Mr. V. Arden McLean: Eight. Yes.

Madam Speaker, we have seen over the last hundreds of years this system unfold before us where in each time we go to the polls the process allows new people to come. That is the changing of the guard. I trust that we older folks will recognise that there comes a time in our lives, in everyone's life, when their ideas are good, but they are starting to get old and it is time to pass the torch. The people of this country have said they are going to now start to pass the torch. I welcome the passing of the torch.

Madam Speaker, let me go on to thank my family for their support over the last 12-plus years, but more so during this campaign cycle. It has been the hardest I have ever fought. But the lesson that must

be learnt is never count anyone out. And that goes for many of us. Don't count me out at any time.

Madam Speaker, I thank the people of East End for once again trusting me with their political leadership. It has been a privilege and an honour to have occupied this real estate that they own for the last 12-plus years. I commit to them that I will continue to advocate on their behalf. Let no one think that the voices of the people of East End will not be heard.

Madam Speaker, I wish to thank my committee. I certainly can say that I have been in this arena since 1992, and this is, by far, the most enthusiastic and hardworking committee I have ever had or seen anywhere in this country, or, for that matter, within the Caribbean. I can say to them like one of them said to me—*We did it our way*. No big fanfare throughout this country, but very silently in the hidden bushes of East End they worked *extremely* hard to get me elected. And they did a tremendous job.

Madam Speaker, to these new parliamentarians, for the benefit of the 12 years that I have had, may I offer a few words of advice? My advice is that this is an opportunity to view this as service to your country. Do not—*do not*—allow anyone or any group to define your political career. That should be defined by yourself, and only by yourself, and the processes that you need to follow. Be true to yourself. Do not allow anyone or others to change your knowledge of what you believe to be true.

People will respect you for who you are and what you stand for. There is only one word to define a principled person, and it just happens to be "principled." If you are not principled you may be defined by many words, many adjectives—thief, dishonest, the likes and the likes, and it goes on. Enter these Chambers with great goals and ideas for this country. Leave it with the same enthusiasm you entered it with. Do not allow anyone to define you. Be true to yourself and believe in yourself.

To the Government, Madam Speaker, I say congratulations (as I did to the Premier Elect, at the time), congratulations on a great win. No one has the right, nor should [they] ever try to take the opportunity to take that away from the Premier. He must now lead this country down their political path which they believe is in the best interest of this country. That path, I know, based on my experiences with many on that Government Bench, particularly in the leadership . . . I have every confidence that it will be done with honesty and integrity. That, I know. That, I believe, to be true. And I will forever hold them responsible and hold them accountable to do that.

Madam Speaker, I left this PPM Party in August last year. But I nevertheless went to the polls and voted for PPM on the 22nd May, because I know who they are and I have never questioned their honesty or their integrity.

Madam Speaker, I stand committed to doing whatever is in the best interest of my country and

whatever I can do to enhance the wellbeing of the people of this country. There is no imperative for me to join the PPM to do what I have to do. The imperative is that we must all do what we need to do. I need not join any party. I stand in this honourable House as an Independent, ready and willing to do whatever is asked of me to enhance the lives of the people of the Cayman Islands.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate you warmly, for another time on the Bench as Speaker. We all know that while it may carry some authority, there is awesome responsibility that comes along with the position of Speaker. Your leadership will define the true governance of this country over the next four years. I implore [you] to lead this honourable House and us all in a manner that this country can be proud.

Madam Speaker, to all my colleagues: thank you all for the opportunity of being amongst you again; I am honoured. I believe I should pinch myself and say that I am privileged, and wonder if it is me. But I am humbled by the fact that I can sit in a chair here that is owned by someone else. That is how we should all approach sitting in this honourable Chamber.

There will be times in this honourable House (and I know it is coming) when there will be disagreements. But as I look across this honourable House I see nothing but Caymanians. We will disagree in this adversarial system, but we must respect each other as Caymanians—always, never forgetting that. Colleagues we are here and now, we don't know where we will be four years from now, let's do what is necessary to lead this country.

Tomorrow we will, for the very first time in the history of this country, lay in state a very, very important person in the history of this country. The contributions that she made will far outweigh those that many of us will ever make. I walked into these hallowed Chambers on the 15th day of November 2000, and the first person to teach me anything about parliamentary procedures was the Honourable Edna Moyle.

As I look back on my political career, I thank her and many others, like the Honourable Kurt Tibbetts, the Minister of Health, the Leader of the Opposition, the First Elected Member for Bodden Town, the Honourable Linford Pierson, Roy Bodden, Gilbert McLean. That is what my political career was all about, looking back on it and appreciating the people who brought me thus far. The Honourable Edna Moyle was one of those persons. Many of these will never get the opportunity to understand what that was about. Will not get the opportunity!

Madam Speaker, I implore us all to make our contribution. Make it quietly, in many instances like Ms. Edna did, but contribute to your people. There is nothing more honourable or more satisfying than contributing to the wellbeing of those who are less than yourself. The Honourable Edna Moyle did that. And I

am thankful to the Government for her to be laid in state tomorrow.

Madam Speaker, the Honourable Edna Moyle did not set out to do that, she set out to contribute. If we look towards the end we will not see the beginning which is here and now. She did not look towards the end. But I believe it is very fitting that we honour her in such a manner. There is no need for us to look towards the end. It is the here and now that we must be concerned about and our people now.

Madam Speaker, I think I have gone on long enough but, again, I thank you for the privilege of giving me such a long period of time—but you know I am longwinded anyway, and others do as well.

Madam Speaker, just let me say I welcome all of the new guys, and I welcome my o-l-d colleagues back. I am sure we will have our little tussles but that will fall away in time.

Madam Speaker, I thank you, and I thank all of my colleagues for the opportunity to speak here this evening.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, honourable Member.

Does any other Member wish to speak?

I recognise the Second Elected Member for Bodden Town, now the Honourable Minister.

Hon. Osbourne V. Bodden, Minister of Health, Sports, Youth and Culture: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

First let me say that it is good to be back. It has been four years since I sat in this hallowed Chamber. I did not really see myself being back here, but such as life (when I decided to reenter the political arena last October), and here I am.

I want to first of all say thanks to Almighty God for allowing that. Thanks to my family and thanks to the people of Bodden Town and the Cayman Islands in general for the support.

I want to congratulate all of my colleagues in this honourable House. I think it is a very talented House. As we look around we have a mix of experience and certainly a lot of young up-and-coming talent to offer good representation to the people of the Cayman Islands and to deal with government business as it should be dealt with.

I too want to remember our past Madam Speaker, because, as the Elected Member for East End just said, when I came into this House in 2005 I would stand up as a rookie and look towards the Speaker's Chair (as I am doing now). And whenever I went off track she would just cock her head on the side and the little signal would come and get me back. Or, if that did not work, she would send a little note and she did that to my friend Alfonso [Wright] and Ms. Lucille [Seymour] as well. And that was her way. And apart from in the Chamber, she taught us many things outside, whether we were in the cafeteria or wherever

we were chatting. She was a woman of much knowledge when it came to parliamentary procedure, and she loved her people and worked hard in the Cayman Islands as a parliamentarian and as a Speaker. And this weekend we will lay her to rest in dear memory.

I am back now, Madam Speaker, as a Minister with responsibility for Education and Sports and maybe some more to come. It is a very humbling time for me. It is in no way a lean task, it is a huge responsibility, because in my hands, as Minister, lie a lot of responsibility for our young people and that is something I take very seriously. I have raised three of my own to pretty good heights now, the youngest being almost 17. I therefore think I do understand a bit about the public education system and education in general, and from my own experiences. I want to be a part of that to pass on my experiences and work hard with what is already there.

I believe that it is very important that we, as representatives—whether as ministers, backbenchers or opposition—see our role as one that we take very seriously and we do not come in to just tear down because someone else did it. Come in to build on what is there and take the country forward, because when we do the former the only people who suffer are our people and, of course, our country.

So, I am looking forward to getting into the Ministry and seeing the various subjects and speaking to the people there and learning what is there. It is going to be a learning curve for me, but I am sure, as I did here, I will learn and will lead. I plan on speaking with both former ministers (who are no longer in the House). I have spoken to them already to that end to meet with them to have them shed their views and light on what was taking place; that is [Mr.] Rolston Anglin and the [Mr.] Mark Scotland, both friends of mine.

I really want to do what is best, especially in the area of education. I see it as a very serious time in this country as to the route we take with education. And certainly, one of the things that I want to leave behind is a proper technical institute of vocational training in these Islands. Because we have talked about that for so long and for some reason we still do not have it formalised. And when I am going (if gone in four years), certainly, that is one thing I will leave behind.

I also want to foster apprenticeship programmes which have been started and to create more of those to encourage our young people to be given the opportunity to work with various institutions and for them to develop skills on-Island where they can go on to successful careers.

We know that we have numeracy and literacy issues at a young age in the schools and we have to make sure that we address those. We also have to ensure that our special needs students are well taken

care of and given the best opportunity to be successful where possible.

I will be touring as much of our facilities (all of them, in fact) as I can, and make sure that I get a full grip, a full understanding of what is there before I start making and stamping my own authority or ideas on what is there. I know that we have a lot of good people working within the ministries and within the civil service generally, and we have to encourage those people and make sure that they are developed also to their full potential. And I am here to give them the assurance that this Minister is coming with an open mind to assess the situation and move forward. We will fix what is broken, and if it is not broken we will continue with it.

I will also ensure that, funds permitting in the four year period, God willing, we can get the John Gray campus completed. And we will also make sure that in conjunction with my colleague, the Minister of Tourism, we get a proper hotel training school going in these Islands.

So, that is just some of what I promise to deliver in this four year period. But in the areas of sports as well . . . so far, I have not really been identified with anything else but there is a possibility of other items that were linked with that previously, being under me as well. But certainly, sports is something that is near and dear to my heart and having been an old sports man, me and Bernie used to try our best but we are no longer, that is the . . . what number are you for West Bay now? Second? Third Elected Member for West Bay . . .

You know, sports, is very important, not only from a health perspective but also when it comes to team-playing sports, it builds camaraderie, leadership and the ability to get along with one another. I see sports as a very, very important thing in the Cayman Islands where our young people can break down barriers and work together. We have a lot of good facilities in Cayman now and I think the opportunity is there for sports tourism to be bigger and better than ever before. Our proximity to the US allows us that flexibility and that is an area we certainly want to work on.

So, there is a lot of work ahead. I don't underestimate the task ahead, Madam Speaker, but with God's strength and the wisdom that I pray for, I feel that I am up to the task. As I said, I am deeply humbled to be given the opportunity to perform at this high level for my country and people.

Once again, I would just like to thank everyone, wish everyone here the best. Let us work together for a better Cayman Islands and thanks to God Almighty again and to the people of the Cayman Islands.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Minister.

I recognise the Honourable Deputy Premier.

The Deputy Premier, Hon. Moses I. Kirkconnell: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I rise to make my short comments this afternoon. Before I do I would like to thank Almighty God for His blessings. And I would like to take time to send condolences to Ms. Edna's family because as the last speaker said, she did have that way of sending you that little note, and although my name was not mentioned, I—and believe everybody else who sat in this House at that time—received one of those notes from her.

But Ms. Edna was a giving person of her time and her knowledge and she was one of those unique individuals that had the ability to make you feel so special, that she had this special interest and wanted you to learn more about parliamentary procedure and she made you realise that she was there to help you, Madam Speaker. So, I send that out to each one of us here and also again, condolences to her family—a very, very special lady and a special person to this country.

Madam Speaker, this seems like a campaign that has been going on for months and months and months. But as I look around at my new colleagues here today, I have to say that it gives me a very good feeling about the future of our Islands. I feel that this new group has tremendous enthusiasm, as has been exhibited here today, and a warm feeling that we have experienced.

I want to thank the people of Cayman Brac and Little Cayman for putting their trust in me, for putting their trust in our team and [for] their confidence that we will move Cayman Brac and Little Cayman forward in a direction of a better standard as we continue to build and job creation and an improved economy that is so desperately needed. But as I have said before, that is micro for the Cayman Islands itself and we certainly have that view for all of the Cayman Islands, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, today the people have spoken, and it is time for us to put all of our differences aside. All of our thoughts and good wishes should go toward this country. I want to say that the Progressives are not a group of people who represent one specific grouping. We are Caymanians, like every other Caymanian in this country, and I want to make sure that every person in this country knows that we only want to work together as Caymanians to build a better Cayman.

I think it is extremely interesting this afternoon as I look around and see the new mix of parliamentarians. Madam Speaker, you and I are children of Sea Captains. And then I look in this Chamber and I see chief engineers who have sailed the seas and I see more children of sea captains and seamen, and I see sea captains sitting in front of me. And, Madam Speaker, this country was built on the hard work of that group of people who sent their funds home. But they sent it home to give us the opportunity.

As I look at some of the younger ones and some of them—

[Inaudible interjection and laughter]

The Deputy Premier, Hon. Moses I. Kirkconnell: *You're the son of a sea captain.*

As I look at them and see some of them might not be able to connect the dots of a seaman in their father's generation, because they have moved down and they are young and bright. I believe that I want to challenge them and say to them that as our forefathers did, whatever it took to make sure that we could be successful, let each one of us realise here today that that is our challenge. That is our challenge for the youth of this country and that is our challenge for this country, that we must move Cayman and these beautiful Cayman Islands forward. I truly believe, Madam Speaker, that that is the intent of each person here today who has been elected.

I would like to thank the people of Cayman Brac and Little Cayman, again. I want to thank my committee. And if I start to name out my committee members by name I am sure I am going to forget one or two and that would be very bad on my part. I honestly think I have seen each one of them individually and thanked them, and if there are some whom I have missed I hope to make sure I do that in the next couple of days when I go home to Cayman Brac.

I have to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge my family and the support and strength, especially my wife Kathy (as the Second Elected for George Town said), who has stood by me. And the wives really play a very special part in supporting (and significant others) in how they support us and help us move forward.

So, Madam Speaker, I again congratulate all the Members of this House on their election. I look forward to working with them to move Cayman forward. And I thank you very much, Madam Speaker, with the time you have allowed me.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Premier.

Does any other Member wish to speak?

The Honourable Minister and Third Elected Member for Bodden Town.

Hon. G. Wayne Panton, Minister of Financial Services, Commerce and Environment: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, let me say that it is an incredible honour and privilege, from my perspective, to be a Member of this House. I look around and see the veterans who I greatly respect, and yet I also see some of my peers, some of my colleagues whom I have known for years, that I greatly respect as well, who are now here with me. I would like to congratulate everyone.

I am also very humbled by the experience of being elected to represent the people of Bodden Town. I would like to thank them very much for putting that trust in me, and I will assure them that it is not something I take lightly, and it is not something that I will breach. I will forever be grateful to them for the experience, and I hope to continue serving them. I hope to bring the best opportunities for them.

I am also very grateful to be on the Government Frontbench to be a Minister, and recognise the awesome responsibility there as well to serve the interests of the country, to serve the interests of our financial industry, amongst other things; an industry which is part of the backbone of our economy. It is something that is critical to us.

There are a number of immediate challenges. There have always been challenges, unfortunately, but there are some immediate challenges that we have to get working on and face straightaway. We are prepared to do that. I am prepared to do that. I am determined to serve this country, to serve the people of Bodden Town, and to serve the various portfolios and ministries which I have responsibility for to the best of my ability.

I would like to thank my family for allowing me to engage in this endeavor to represent the people of Bodden Town and the country in general. It is something that everyone else has noted, and it is not something that you can do very lightly without having their support and assistance. So, I would like to thank my wife and my son very much.

I would like to thank all of my colleagues in the Progressives, on the Frontbench and on the Backbench. I am very proud of them. I am proud of the start that we have made. I am proud of the way that we have demonstrated that we are a Government of inclusiveness, and I think that will continue. I look forward to demonstrating that to the rest of the country over the next four years and doing the best possible job for Bodden Town and for these Cayman Islands that we all love so much.

I probably should have started off saying that I should thank God for where I am as well. But let me end by saying God bless this House and God bless all the people of the Cayman Islands.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Minister.

Does any other Member . . .

The First Elected Member for the district of Bodden Town.

Hon. Anthony S. Eden, Deputy Speaker, First Elected Member for Bodden Town: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I was a bit worried when my colleagues counted up the newcomers. I counted and counted. I

think some of us forgot that the Second Elected Member for Bodden Town was on rollover.

[Laughter]

Hon. Anthony S. Eden: And [he] makes the nine new ones.

First of all I would like to thank my Heavenly Father for the opportunity that I have been able to come back here one more time, my family, especially my wife Ellen. My three Bodden Town colleagues know the campaigner she is when she, along with our committee, walked unending it seemed like, especially when my broken wing would not allow me to get out there and walk the way that I needed to. But I had the trust that if it was God's will, I would be back here.

I want to welcome you, Madam Speaker, back one more term. You have done a marvelous job in the past in the Chair, totally unbiased, and we look forward to working with you.

I want to also remember my dear friend, former Madam Speaker, as [that was] all I ever called her, Ms. Edna Moyle. She and the First Elected Member for George Town and I came into this House over 20 years ago at the same time, and I know the respect and the times that you worked with her to make Cayman a better place.

I want to thank all of my Bodden Town constituents for allowing me the sixth consecutive term to serve them here in this honourable House, and I look forward to serving them for the next four years with my three new colleagues. The additions I see here, Madam Speaker, I have never before in any of those prior five elections, the change that was made and the quality Members that have come into this House this time is totally astounding. I welcome them all working with veterans—the Member for North Side, the Member for East End, the First Elected Member for West Bay, Fourth Elected Member for West Bay, and the old veteran, the First Elected Member for George Town, who, like myself, seems to have been here all of his life.

I would like to formally, once again, extend my deepest sympathy to the family of Ms. Edna.

We can work together, Madam Speaker, if we put our people first. It is about the people. We can make Cayman a better place for all. I have seen in recent times so many of our people hurting. I have never ever in my (next week) 68 years, as I moved about the district, [seen] people wanting just some money to give their children to buy lunch, to buy breakfast for them. Our elderly people, some of the conditions in which [they] live. I want the commitment, Madam Speaker, from this House, that we will come unified and make a difference. It is about our people.

We can do this but it has to be a huge commitment. We have to stop this nonsense about political aggran[disement], whatever fancy talk you want to use.

An Hon. Member: Aggrandisement

Hon. Anthony S. Eden: Aggrandisement or whatever . . . anyway, don't let me get there; that will come at a later time.

We can make things better for them. One of the first things I think we need to do is to deal with fuel. The multiplier effect that that will have across the Board, whatever sacrifice we need to [make], and I will be the first to say, put it on these cellphones or something. People have three, four, five of these things. That's not needed like we need to get a reduction in fuel for our people. I will make a difference.

Madam Speaker, this is about welcoming my colleagues. As I said earlier, this is the finest set that I have seen come in here. But as I look at my veteran colleague—who forced me to come back here . . . he said we came in together and we are going out together. But he will be able to stay longer. But whatever God's will, I just want all of us to work together.

Remember, it is the people. And the day we forget that . . . it may take them four years but we saw four of the last five ministers in the Government lose their seats, for whatever reason, but the people know and they will not continue to sit down. We have a new generation coming up who are not going to sit by like you and I and the First Elected Member for George Town, the First Elected Member for West Bay. They are going to sit and make things go . . . they will make a difference, they will take a stand and send the message to us, and my friend for East End and not to mention my friend for North Side.

So, all I say is, may God bless us all and may He bless these Cayman Islands.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, honourable Member.

Does any other Member wish to speak?

The First Elected Member for George Town who is now Honourable Minister.

Hon. D. Kurt Tibbetts, Minister of Planning, Agriculture, Housing and Infrastructure: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I was hoping that the Honourable Premier would just have locked shop for the day so that we would not have to go through this exercise, but I realise that it would be unfair, especially to the newcomers.

Madam Speaker, first of all let me say congratulations to you on your new appointment. I have no doubt in my mind that you will do the job that is required in the Chair as Speaker. I certainly look forward to working along with the Clerk and the Deputy Clerk and the other members of staff of the Legislative Assembly. I had to smile when my good friend the First Elected Member for Bodden Town looked at me and said I forced him. If I was smart I would have spo-

ken first and said he forced me, but he beat me to the draw so I will have to take culpability.

Madam Speaker, six times is plenty, just like number 20 was plenty. But on a very serious level I certainly am proud to be able to continue to be of service, not only to the people of the district of George Town—and I wish to thank them for once again returning me as one of their elected representatives—but also to be of service to my country. Madam Speaker, there are some of us who just want to do that. There are still some of us who just want to do that.

As everyone else has spoken, and I looked around thinking about the new faces that are here, I have to say that it is heartening to see those new faces. Even the last time around, Madam Speaker, as I looked around, I had an eerie feeling because I did not see continuity and I was so fearful of a void when all of a sudden 15 of us are gone suddenly, and even if we increased the House to 18 there would only be 3 people who were here before. And that could spell trouble; not because of any intentions that are not the best, but we need that blend to allow for continuity, and I thank God I see that today. And the new faces, including the rollover, are all here I know with the best of intentions and they bring along with them skill sets which are absolutely needed in this Legislative Assembly.

I want to just take a minute to publicly say to all of my colleagues, but especially to them, that now more than any other time, notwithstanding the fact that there will be sides, the election is over. And I want to say to every one of them . . . and I hope the words do not fall by the wayside. Let me tell you all this: regardless of any gratitude that you owe to anyone who may have supported you, you owe an allegiance to your country first and foremost. So let not any obligation that you may think you have to anyone override your obligation to where you are today—and that is your obligation to the people. Very soon, very swiftly all of you will learn that that obligation overrides everything else except God and family. Say no more. But bear it in mind and watch it come to fruition.

Madam Speaker, many who have spoken before me have mentioned our former Speaker. And I am not going to attempt that this afternoon. Let me just say that she was dear to me and we will all do what we have to do to see her on her last journey. I mentioned this once already but not in here. She sent a plaque to me once, and it said: "A friend is someone who reaches for your hand and touches your heart." And I pray God today that we can all be friends and reach for each other's hand and touch each other's hearts, even when we fight in this Legislative Assembly.

Now, it is no longer about who wins, it is about if our country wins, and that is what we have to ensure in our entire thought processes and in all of our actions.

Madam Speaker, lastly, let me say a special . . . I can't explain it, I can only say thanks. People know me; I can't do things the right way when it comes to that. But let me say a special thanks to all of our supporters. Like the First Elected Member for Cayman Brac and Little Cayman, the Deputy Premier, I certainly will not attempt to call names. But there are many who had great faith in us and stuck with us and some even worked harder than we did, and they did it because they believed in us. For that I am eternally grateful.

I want to say once again a very special thank you to the people of George Town and pledge once again that I will do everything that I can to be worthy of the confidence they have bestowed in me.

My family, it makes no sense for me to start there. I just say one word—thanks.

Madam Speaker, finally, but most importantly, I want to thank God for guiding me through my life with all of the many decisions that I have had to make and the many crises that have befallen. And let us never forget, without Him we are nothing.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Minister.

I recognise the Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, Leader of the Opposition:

Madam Speaker, I am privileged once more to be elected to this honourable Legislative Assembly. Firstly, I want to humbly thank the good people of West Bay for their trust in me. Eight times they have done that now, Madam Speaker.

I want here to thank my committee and my elected colleagues without whom my election would be nigh impossible. In so doing, I want to add my thanks to all those persons throughout these Islands who have supported me these past 28 and-a-half years. I must especially mention all of those churches that chose to offer prayers constantly for me and my family. Madam Speaker, that combination is what has kept me going in the turbulent years.

This institution called politics is a hard taskmaster. Madam Speaker, there are eight Members who are entering this honourable House for the first time. I wish them well. I recognise as much as been said that is going to be the cut and thrust of debate. Politics is politics and that is what it will be. But I wish them well.

To the combined Government, I say, Madam Speaker, as the Holy Scripture says, "Let him that girdeth on his armour boast himself as he that putteth it off."

Madam Speaker, I want to add my congratulations to your election as the Honourable Speaker. The Chair is no stranger to you; you have been there before. You know the cut and thrust of debate better than most of us. And I guess, Madam Speaker, unless

God really intervenes, you will have your . . . well, your metal will be tested, as it was before.

Madam Speaker, family is special. My advice to all the newcomers is, regardless of what anyone else tells you—do not take your family into the cut and thrust of politics. In this small community, leave them out. Sometimes some things want to draw them into the limelight. Resist it. Take my advice. No matter how well you think it might befit you, not this small community.

You are in your glory today as the Government Bench. The Bible says too: "You know not what the morrow may bring." We have all, most of us been down this path, and particularly those of us who have been down this path, to know what politics gives in our small community. Leave your families out of it. I have sought to keep my family away from the noisome pestilence, and it is difficult. For even then, when you do keep them out, the darts still come and it surprises you where the darts come from. It surprises you.

Madam Speaker, my tenure as Opposition, has always been one of Cayman first. I will not be Opposition to everything because, Madam Speaker, that comes back to haunt. For when something is said, something is painted to be bad, and when it proves to be good, then what? One only then tries to make it look good too, even though you opposed it, taking credit for it as well.

Madam Speaker, when I determined that I wanted to try to do more for my community by being elected, I knew the task would be difficult. But I determined that my forte was that I was a worker. I didn't or could not boast a degree (and have been denigrated for that), but, Madam Speaker, I was a worker. I had been a Boy Scout and Boys' Brigade leader and a Sunday-School teacher, an elder in the church. I have formed community groups and youth groups, as I believe in helping people. And so my life publicly has been about getting difficult things done.

I took that attitude into government and that is what a representative must do—work! This is not church. Certainly, it is some kind of school, Madam Speaker, but it is about working for all the people no matter where they come from. To do that and keep a balance in one's life, work, thought, and deed, is difficult.

Madam Speaker, I have been through many storms, and I have weathered them all regardless of the pounding I took. I have always learned something from these situations. You firstly learn who your real friends are; you learn who you can really trust and then try to build positively from that perspective, and, of course, learning from errors in judgment.

The last four years has been a tumultuous period in a world ever changing. And, Madam Speaker, time will tell, because you can't walk away from it. Time will tell. History will tell the story, and it won't be recorded wrongly, because, what we say in this arena does not end here. What people say does not end

there. It doesn't! And there is a different record that has to be kept and it will be known publicly. I await that time.

Madam Speaker, as much as we talk about the amount of work we have and the things that we need to do, the good ship Cayman is on some even keel still. She is not floundering. Storms are ahead. Storms are in the past, but she is not floundering.

When I took over as Leader of the Opposition we did not know many things happening in government. With FOI [Freedom of Information] today, which brings some accountability, Madam Speaker, there is room to see and to know where government money is spent. Even if we do not agree where we spend it, we now know where it has been spent. There is accountability.

Today, while we have trouble on every front, there has to be improvement. Tourism is the best it has been in 12 years because we worked. We travelled to the meetings and we encouraged our civil service staff and worked with the department.

In the Financial Services, the new Minister mentioned that we have always had trouble. We have; and we have weathered those storms. But there are great storms ahead and we do not need to point fingers, Madam Speaker. We will need solutions.

When I came into Government we went straight to work. We signed the agreements and worked hard. I travelled. The technocrats travelled. We attended the meetings; we worked, we discussed, we did the promotions, we made the speeches; we listened to the good advice of technocrats and implemented the policies, and the good ship Cayman stayed afloat in turbulent, turbulent times.

And, Madam Speaker, I have said many times when I have had to speak in promotions overseas and when we were asked, *Well, what about the Cayman Islands, where is the stance? What is happening there and all of these failures? And I said, The proof of the pudding is there.* There has not been one loss in the financial sector because of the economic crisis. There has not been one. There has been downsizing, there have been amalgamations, movement to and fro and lots of business and increase of business, but we did not sink because we are a well regulated jurisdiction.

Now, Madam Speaker, there are much more improvements to be made. But I believe the good ship Cayman today . . . and I believe that this Government can do it, and my plan is to give them wide scope. My form of Opposition is not to stand here or on the street or some radio or elsewhere to battle the Government on every front. I've never done it. I ain't going to do so now. In fact, I plan to say and probably I will take a beating for this, and a cursing for it—*CNS* is going to carry it I know for certain—but I plan to take a good rest and give the Government a wide berth, and to offer my hand of fellowship and friendship. And if they do not take it, and I promised to get votes and only get 13 out of 18, well—

[Inaudible interjection and laughter]

Hon. W. McKeever Bush, Leader of the Opposition: Then, Madam Speaker, I will have to look again to see whether they are keeping their promises. Yes, there were some con words [SOUNDS LIKE].

There are much more improvements to be made but we are ready, willing and able to listen and to work with the people who want to work and get the right things done for the future. That is what we are here for.

[Inaudible interjection]

Hon. W. McKeever Bush, Leader of the Opposition: No, I still have more to say.

I agree that we need, Madam Speaker, to rethink the policies that are not productive and to push Cayman to a position of the world's premier financial centre. We can do it, Madam Speaker, but have to do it together. It can be done but we must do it together.

Madam Speaker, the financial services industry generates approximately 55 per cent of our GDP [Gross Domestic Product]. It goes without saying that it is the most important economic generator for the Cayman Islands and provides employment for all sectors of the labour force.

Over the years—and I mention this because the Minister did raise the point—the industry has provided a balanced regulatory regime and has signed numerous international exchange of information agreements, while, at the same time, resisting the pressure from the various left-wing organisations and others to implement measures which were not being implemented by financial centres, including those in Europe and the United States. Madam Speaker, that created an uneven playing field.

In the last four years we have been pressured, Madam Speaker, to do more and more. I have always resisted those measures which create an uneven playing field and this has been a constant battle with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office who would like to see the Cayman Islands, I believe, as they told us one time to return to fishing, farming and tourism, but we should not be in the financial industry. Well, we are. We are, Madam Speaker. And so I will be monitoring any measures which are proposed that make the Cayman Islands uncompetitive and could jeopardise our economic viability and the jobs of the numerous persons who work in and services the financial services industry.

International measures, Madam Speaker, which are designed to damage our financial industry should be resisted, and Cayman should not put itself forward as taking the lead in experimental measures which generally result in the United Kingdom, the United States, the European Union and others not following suit and leaving the Cayman Islands in a

position in which it finds itself difficult to compete on an international level and then a transfer of our business to them. They say it is their business though you know, Madam Speaker. That is what they say. They say all of that is theirs.

Madam Speaker, it is their tax policies and other financial policies that run people away. And I always say that money, like water, will find its level. And if we do the right things people will come to us but we are going to have to be *more* than watchful and more than careful that we do not give away the shop to these people. I've seen these letters. I've seen what the Prime Minister has said, and it is not good. But I believe that we are up to the task whether they say you are too overzealous in dealing with them, I believe that we have to be strong enough to take on the task. I leave it there, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, as I said, this is my country where I was born, where I want to die and rest my bones, as that of my ancestors. Nothing can change that, Madam Speaker. That is what I want to say here. No party politics can change it. No principalities or powers can keep me from doing what is right and proper for the people of these Islands. That's where I stand. I've already said my time in Opposition is going to be quite different in this four-year term.

I close, Madam Speaker, by repeating for all of us (not just for me), one of my favourite hymns.

[Inaudible interjection]

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, Leader of the Opposition:
Madam Speaker, I think he is more of a friend than an opponent now so I won't bother to answer him in kind.

But Norman Macleod wrote:

**Courage, brother! Do not stumble,
Though thy path be dark as night;
There's a star to guide the humble:
Trust in God, and do the right.**

**Let the road be rough and dreary,
And its end be far out of sight,
Foot it bravely; strong or weary,
Trust in God, and do the right.**

**Perish policy and cunning,
Perish all that fears the light!
Whether losing, whether winning,
Trust in God, and do the right.**

**Some will hate thee, some will love thee,
Some will flatter, some will slight;
Cease from man, and look above thee;
Trust in God, and do the right.**

**Simple rule, and safest guiding,
Inward peace and inward might,
Star upon our path abiding,—**

Trust in God, and do the right.

**Courage, brother! Do not stumble,
Though thy path be dark as night;
There's a star to guide the humble:
Trust in God, and do the right.**

Madam Speaker, the other hymn writer said: "I feel the winds of God today. Today my sail I lift." And so, "The woods are lovely, dark and deep. But I have promises to keep, and miles to go before I sleep."

Madam Speaker, I repeated those things many times. This will be my last such occasion as this will be my last term in this honourable Legislative Assembly.

I thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

Does any other Member wish to speak?

I recognise the Honourable Deputy Governor.

The Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz I. Manderson:
Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, just some brief words to offer on behalf of the civil service, and especially my colleague in Cabinet, the Second Official Member, our sincere congratulations to all the Members of this House. We certainly look forward to working with everyone.

The civil service is excited to serve the new Government. We understand that while we must be politically neutral, we must not be neutral about serving the Government of the day. And it is my responsibility to ensure that all civil servants carry out the duties and policies and procedures of the new Government with passion and conviction. I want to assure all within the Government that that will happen.

There is a lot of history here today. Not only do we have 18 Members, but looking around the House I see that we have nine lawyers in the Chamber. I'm not sure that we have ever had that many lawyers here. And I am very pleased to say that I have two of my classmates here from the class of 1981—the Third Elected Member for West Bay and the Third Elected Member for Bodden Town. We all went to school together, and it is a great privilege and pleasure for me to serve with my classmates. That does not happen very often, Madam Speaker, where you get to work with people that you have grown up with and known practically your whole life. So, I am very much looking forward to that.

I am especially pleased that one of my classmates will be in Cabinet, and I get to work with him on a regular basis.

Madam Speaker, I want to advise Members that the civil service has been working hard to prepare for this day. All the chief officers are very familiar with

the manifesto of the Government. We've all studied and looked at it and we are now preparing action plans to carry out the policies of the new Government. We have also prepared briefing notes that we will be giving to all Ministers so that they get a clear understanding as to what work has been done and what work needs to be done, and some of the key priorities that we would like to put forward.

Additionally, we have also prepared an orientation day, or two days, for Members which covers the wide spectrum of government. We have presentations from chief officers, from members of the various commissions, independent bodies such as the Complaints Commissioner, Information Commissioner, and a number of other key agencies so that everyone has a very clear understanding as to the various roles of the institutions in government, and also how they can help them in carrying out their duties.

Madam Speaker, it only leaves me to say welcome to everyone. I look forward to working with everyone. Congratulations to you Ma'am. We within the civil service look forward to working with everyone in the Chamber.

Thank you and good evening.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Governor.

Does any other Member wish to speak?
I recognise the Honourable Premier.

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, Jr.: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I spoke quite extensively at the swearing-in so I do not propose to go through any of that again. I thanked my committee and so forth. I think the only grave omission I had was that I failed to thank my dear wife and family for all that they have gone through over so many years, in particular over the past few months, and I do so now.

I just wanted to rise, Madam Speaker, to say to Members that the business of navigating this House and navigating Government is not quite as simple as it appears when you are on the outside, and it will take considerable time to get the hang of how things work here, and for the new Ministers, in particular, how things work within the public service when you are a minister.

Because of that, one of the first things that I have asked the Clerk to see if she can organise is a Commonwealth Parliamentary Association seminar for incoming Members of the House. That will go a long way to give new Members essentially a basic course in parliamentary procedure. Otherwise, it will take you a long time, and you just have to listen and watch as we go through the various procedures and motions here. That, I think, will help get you up to speed much quicker. We are not sure quite how quickly we can get all of that done but, certainly, I would like to see it happen in the next couple of months if possible.

As far as the new Ministers are concerned, we are arranging, with the assistance of the Cabinet Secretary and the Chief Officers, proper briefing sessions so that you can start to understand how the system works. Change is good, but it also brings with it considerable stresses and strains. It is going to take a while for the new Government to settle down, for this House to settle down and be able to move smoothly through the various things that we have to do to effect the business of government. So, I will leave that there.

The other thing I wanted to say was that I hope all Members have gotten a copy of the letter from the Cabinet Secretary outlining the sequence of events leading up to the funeral of our dear departed former Speaker, Mrs. Edna Moyle. I do hope that all Members of the House will be able to join us at the Government Administration Building tomorrow morning at nine o'clock as the hearse bearing her remains stops here, and we can stand with the family as the flag is lowered to half-mast and then the hearse will proceed to the Legislative Assembly where she will lie in state for the day tomorrow.

We are expected to lead the procession as we pass through the Chamber where she will be lying in state. So, if Members could arrange to be here around 10.00, as that is when that is expected to start.

I think those are really the only things, Madam Speaker, which I wanted to inform Members of. I want to thank everyone for today. It was challenging. The time in which to organise the event and knowing the details of who was who and where who went, provided significant logistical challenges to the Cabinet Office and to the Protocol Office and to the Clerk and staff of the Legislative Assembly, and I am deeply grateful for the efforts that you've made and for the hard work and long hours that you put in to pull it off.

And then, to top things, the weather decided not to co-operate which increased the challenge. But we got through it and I think we got through it with still a very dignified ceremony. I am delighted that we are at this point where we can now get down to the business of Government. So, I want to thank everyone for co-operating. I thank all Members as well for doing their part, to be here on time and to follow instructions so well. I think we have had rain, notwithstanding a good day and we are off, I believe, to a good start.

So, Madam Speaker, with those few words I thank you, too, and bid all Members of this House good evening.

The Speaker: I believe that that consists of all Members who expressed an indication of wanting to speak, but out of the abundance of caution I will ask if there is any other Member who wishes to speak.

If not, I will put the question that this honourable House be adjourned sine die. All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

Ayes.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it. This honourable House now stands adjourned sine die.

At 6.23 pm the House stood adjourned sine die.