

GCCI Newsletter

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGETOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



President's Address



Dear readers, welcome to GCCI's November/ December e-newsletter.

For the month of November, we hosted our Annual Gala and Awards Ceremony which is the biggest and most exciting event for the GCCI. At this year's Gala, we would have welcomed the Former Prime Minister of Jamaica, Ms. Portia Simpson-Miller, O.N as the keynote speaker. Her delivery of a very impactful speech was certainly the highlight of the event. Moreover, I wish to congratulate each of the award recipients for their outstanding works in the business community.

For the month of December, it was a brief yet rousing month. Excitingly also, you will be able to see the year 2019 at GCCI in review.

Finally, the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry appreciates the time shared with you all in 2019. My wish for this season is for us to have a safe and fun-filled holiday. On behalf of the GCCI, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2020.

I hope you have fun reading this edition.

What can you find in this Month's Newsletter?



November/ December month in review



Who became members in November/ December?



Member-Company Feature



Special Feature
2019 in Review

GCCI's Month in Review- November

The GCCI met with His Excellency, Datuk Lim Juay Jin



The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) received a Courtesy Call from His Excellency, Datuk Lim Juay Jin, Non-Resident High Commissioner for Malaysia November 7th, 2019.

GCCI met with representatives of the Change Guyana Party

On November 12th, 2019 the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry met with the leaders of "Change Guyana" to discuss the party's development plan for the country.



GCCI partnered with Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI)



The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry partnered with CARIRI to host an information seminar on November 13th, 2019. The aim of the seminar was to share the services the multifaceted institution provides. The services include: Laboratory and field testing, occupational hygiene, data science, failure analysis, environmental management, etc.

GCCI's Month in Review- November

GCCI Press Conference

The Executive Members of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) hosted a press conference to discuss the GCCI's Business Directory Launch as an official event of Guyana International Petroleum Business Summit & Exhibition, the GCCI's Annual Gala, Local Content, Land Allocation and GECOM Technical Assistance.



Members of GCCI met with representatives of Solenis



Members of the Chamber met with representatives of Solenis, one of the top specialty chemical companies in the world. Solenis provides solutions to water-intensive industries, including the pulp and paper, oil and gas, chemical processing, mining, bio refining and power markets.

Members of GCCI met with representatives of the Venezuelan Chamber of Petroleum



Members of the Chamber met with a delegation from the Venezuelan Chamber of Petroleum. The intent of the meeting was to discuss opportunities for collaboration in the local oil and gas industry.

GCCI's Month in Review- November

GCCI launches Business Directory



The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry, on November 20th, 2019 would have launched its Business Directory for the year 2019/2020 during a cocktail reception which was held at the Pegasus Hotel, Aura Lounge as an official event of GIPEX 2019. The Business Directory provides details of over 300 commercial, industrial and professional companies that are members of the Chamber.



The GCCI would have also awarded its Vision Fund Grant, which was launched at the Business Development Forum 2019 in September 2019 to Mr. Dason Mckenzie for his winning business proposal of "Home Care Guyana".



GCCI's Month in Review- November

Members of the GCCCI attended GuyTIE Sensitization Seminar

The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) welcomed representatives from the GuyTIE Team who did a sensitization outreach. The team would have provided information on the benefits of participating in the exhibition, and also, provided updates on the planning process.



The GCCCI hosts "Planting, Training and Management of Trees in Urban Areas" Seminar



The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) -Green Committee hosted a seminar on "Planting, Training and Management of Trees in Urban Areas." The training was conducted by Dr. Patrick Chesney, Tropical Agroforestry and Horticulture Specialist.

GCCI's Month in Review- December

December 2nd, 2019:

Chairman of the Guyana-India Trade Facilitation Council, Dr. Surendra Persaud, met with Indian businessman, Mr. Maheshwari of Uttamenergy, and Mr. Manoj Verma, a Sugar Expert who were visiting Guyana to engage GUYSUCO on the modernization of the facility at the Albion Plant.

December 4th, 2019:

Members of the Trade & Investment Committee met with newly instated Trade Officer of the British High Commission, Mr. Sherwyn Naughton.

December 4th, 2019:

Members of the Construction Committee met with representatives of the Inter-American Development Bank to discuss the Sheriff Street road project.



December 6th, 2019:

Members of the GCCI met with the Project Consultants for the “Capacity Building for Local Government Reform” project. The project is being implemented by the Ministry of Communities with technical assistance from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

GCCI's Month in Review- December

December 6th, 2019:

The President of the GCCI attended the launch of Cummings Wood Products/Floor-It Showroom.

December 9th, 2019:

The Executive Director met with Mr. Derek Waddell, an investor from the Trinidad. The intent of the meeting was to discuss opportunities for investment in Guyana.

December 10th-12th, 2019:

GCCI Trade Officer, Hayma Joseph, attended a Special Training on Trade Remedies which was hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

December 10th, 2019:

The GCCI's Green Committee hosted a seminar on "Planting, Training and Management of Trees in Urban Areas." The training was conducted by Dr. Patrick Chesney, Tropical Agroforestry and Horticulture Specialist.



December 11th, 2019:

The Executive Director and Chairperson of the Green Economy Committee, Ms. Shaleeza Shaw, met with representatives of the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) to discuss Renewable energy transitions for Guyana.

GCCI's Month in Review- December

December 11th, 2019:

Members of the GCCI met with a group of investors from the U.S. company, Aker Solutions to discuss investment opportunities and the business climate in Guyana.



December 12th, 2019

The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry held its final Statutory Council Meeting/ Christmas Social to conclude the year, 2019.



Special Feature

2019 in Review

The Chamber has had an active and productive year. From advocacy to trade facilitation, the Chamber has worked tirelessly to represent the best interests of the business community.

Advocacy for Development in Oil & Gas Sector

Through our newly formed and dynamic Petroleum Committee, the Chamber was able to achieve a number of things in the realm of advocacy as it relates to the oil and gas sector.

In May, the GCCI partnered with the Guyana Office for Investment (GO-Invest) to facilitate the participation of a Guyanese business delegation in the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) in Houston, Texas. During this time, Guyanese businesses were able to network and conduct meetings with some of the largest companies in the oil and gas sector. Following the success of that event, the GCCI sent another trade delegation to Aberdeen, Scotland in September to participate in the SPE Offshore Europe Conference & Exhibition.

Local Content

Through our Advocacy Committee the Chamber has engaged multiple levels of government and policy makers on legislation and regulations that impact the petroleum industry. The Chamber has also been at the forefront of the conversation regarding local content. In August, the Chamber hosted a Local Content Forum at Duke Lodge. Feedback received from attendees and the Chamber's membership was compiled and used to prepare the Chamber's Position Paper on Guyana's Petroleum Sector Local Content Policy, which was recently submitted to the Department of Energy as a response to a request for commentary on the 3rd Draft of the Local Content Policy.

Improving the Standards of Local Businesses

In an effort to build the capacity and improve the standards and capabilities of local-agro-processors, the GCCI is undertaking a USD \$134,000 project titled, "**Improving Standards of Agro-Processors Through Training.**" The project, which is being funded by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), aims to enhance the managerial, technical and operational capacity of micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs) in Guyana. Training will be provided in packaging and labelling, good manufacturing practices (GMP) and hazard access critical control point (HACCP).

Strengthening Cooperation with Counterparts

Continuing a culture of cooperation and information sharing, the GCCI signed an MoU with the Newfoundland and Labrador Oil & Gas Industries Association (NOIA) in October. Under the agreement, the GCCI and the NOIA will cooperate to provide each other with information relating to investment, trade and other opportunities within their respective locations, relating to the oil and gas sector. The GCCI signed a similar MoU in July with the Guyana Chamber of Commerce of Ghana.

Championing Diversity

It is the Chamber's mission to empower more women to take up leadership positions in the private sector. As such, through our newly formed Diversity Sub-Committee, the Chamber hosted a "Connecting Women in Business" Reception in October with the aim of offering professional women a unique opportunity to network

Special Feature

2019 in Review

and make valuable business connections. The Chamber has also partnered Girls-in-Tech, a global non-profit organization focused on the empowerment of girls and women in IT, and will continue to keep diversity and inclusivity at the forefront of our strategic program.

Ensuring Growth and Sustainability for Local Businesses

Lastly, in keeping with our mandate to expand member opportunities and sustain growth, the GCCI hosted its second Annual Business Development Forum in September under the theme, “Evolve Your Brand, Fuel Your Finance.” During the two-day forum, attendees, comprising mainly of start-ups and growing businesses, learned about topics such as digital marketing strategy, project proposal writing and innovative startup financing. For this event, the GCCI partnered with the Ministry of Business, the Inter-American Development Bank, Cacique Accounting College, Republic Bank Guyana Limited (RBGL) Ansa McAL Trading Limited. During this event, the GCCI also launched a \$300,000 grant for entrepreneurs. Attendees were asked to submit a business plan and applicants were judged against a given set of criteria including the business’ capability, potential for growth, profitability and environmental benefits.

Event of the Month

GCCI's Annual Gala & Award Dinner

The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry would have hosted its 130th Annual Gala & Award Dinner on November 28th, 2019 at the Guyana Marriott Hotel. It was a great evening with many in attendance to honor the Award Recipients for 2019. The keynote address was delivered by Former Prime Minister of Jamaica, Most Honorable Portia Simpson-Miller, O.N.

Each year the GCCI honors organizations and individuals who have achieved a standard of excellence in the business community through their abilities, efforts and initiatives. The award recipients for 2019 are as follows:

Business of the Year (Large) - Demerara Distillers Limited

Business of the Year (Small - Medium) - Zeco Industrial Engineering

Lifetime Achievement - Mr. Manniram Prashad

Women in Business - Avia Maria Lindie, METRO

President's Award - Impressions

Chamber's Award- Mr. Terry Singh, JAPARTS/Source One Oil & Gas Supplies

Young Business Executive- Mr. Gregory Shaw, Shaw's Media

Award for Local Innovation - UMAMI Inc.

Corporate Citizenship Award - Comfort Sleep

Public Service Award of Excellence- Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Media Award- OilNOW Guyana



Award Recipients for Annual Gala & Award Ceremony 2019



Mr. Nicholas Deygoo-Boyer gave the opening remarks



The keynote address was given by the Former Prime Minister of Jamaica, The Most Honourable, Ms. Portia Simpson-Miller, O.N.

The Chamber Welcomes You On Board!

As of November/December, 2019 the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry would like to take the opportunity to welcome its newest members:

1. Fresh Press Enterprizes
2. Consolidates Marketing Solutions
3. Bynoe's Realty
4. Pammy's Creative Kitchen
5. Itacha Energy Partners
6. Surveying Services Limited
7. Thompson Group International Inc.
8. G-Port Inc
9. The Balance
10. GY- Technology and Office Supplies
11. Beston Consulting Limited
12. AV Energy & Marine Services Guyana Inc
13. United Bearings & Equipment Agencies ltd
14. Supreme Ventures Enterprise Inc.

Business Feature for the Month

Source One Oil & Gas Supplies



Source One Oil & Gas Supplies (SOS) is the subsidiary of JAPARTS, which was formed three (3) years ago in response to Guyana's emerging oil and gas sector. SOS is now a major supplier of industrial consumables and related equipment within the oil and gas industry. SOS is a supplier to many of the sub-contractors maintaining their motto of quality, expediency and reliability. Some of the products and services offered by SOS includes: ship supplies, spare supplies, fabrication and welding, HDPE pipe supplies, CCU container supplies, petroleum services, oil containment boom supplies, industrial power generators, etc.



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