



Newsletter

The Official Monthly Newsletter of the
Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry



THE GEORGETOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

FEBRUARY 2023 IN REVIEW

Welcome to the Monthly Newsletter of the Georgetown Chamber of
Commerce and Industry

Highlights



FEBRUARY
IN REVIEW



UPCOMING
EVENTS



NEW
MEMBERS



MEMBER OF
THE MONTH

GET IN TOUCH

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Highlights

CARIBCATION

On Friday, February 3, 2023, GCCI's Junior Vice President Mr. Kester Hutson, attended an event called 'CARIBCATION SAINT LUCIA', which was hosted by the Saint Lucia Tourism Authority at Marriott Hotel in Georgetown Guyana.

MSME's

The International Energy Conference and Expo Guyana began today, and members of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) were able to take advantage of our specially curated packages.

AGM 2023

GCCI's Annual General Meeting is scheduled to take place on March 22, 2023.

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the monthly e-newsletter of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) , Our monthly edition features GCCI's calendar of activities, significant Chamber dates, business and member of the month, as well as greetings to our newest members.



February was an exciting month for our Chamber ! all executives and committees held their final meetings for the year as they prepare to say goodbye to the outgoing council of the period 2021-2022.

As we prepare to host our Annual General Meeting on March 22, 2023, we are happy to capture the last set of events that the Chamber's present council had the privilege of being part of. I hope you enjoy this month's edition and remember that if everyone is moving forward together, the success takes care of itself.

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME TO GCCCI

As of February 2023, the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry embraced its newest cohort of members. We would like to take the opportunity to extend our warmest welcome to:

February 2023

- Inner Peace Psychotherapy and Counseling Services
- Maid Simple Guyana
- JGS Business SVC
- SAMANDHEL CORP
- Durable Wood Products Inc.
- Zoe perissos business service
- Xtreme Creative Solutions (XCS)
- Top Brandz Distributors
- SARVEN TECHNOLOGIES INC
- Embers Fine Cigars
- EKAA Hrim



The Chamber congratulates Mr. Budnarine Meghan, Proprietor of Kanuku Suites, on the expansion of his operations which will showcase more of Guyana’s natural beauty.

In photo: Ms. Shaleeza Shaw, Secretary of the Chamber flanked by Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr. Manzoor Nadir, Proprietor of Kanuku Eco Lodge, Mr. Budnarine Meghan, and Mayor Ubraj Narine among other special invitees

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EVENTS:

GCCI Congratulated Kanuku Tours on the launch of their Eco Lodge Resort in Region Nine

The new Kanuku Tours Eco Lodge Resort was launched last Friday, February 3, 2023. The event was attended by Ms. Shaleeza Shaw, Secretary of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Chairperson of its Green Economy Committee. GCCI was pleased to be part of this launch which features the “five-star” standard of eco-tourism offered in Guyana.

The area is known for its diverse ecosystems of rivers, savannahs, rainforests, mountain ranges, and endemic biodiversity. The lodge will allow many local and international visitors to experience the true wilderness of this region that is often craved.



The Business Link Up

Do you have a Micro, Small or Medium Business and thinking about joining the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry?

Then join us Friday 10th March 2023 at 10:00 hrs. on MEGA 102.1 FM as we bring to you how Safeway Security Inc. can safeguard your investments and what the GCCI has to offer MSME.





The Young people in attendance spoke confidently about the impact sessions like these have on their lives and how they help to give them a broader perspective on helping others and appreciating the resources at their disposal.

In addition, they discussed ways to help reintegrate youth who have encountered difficulties or have been disadvantaged by peer pressure and other factors into society. The session ended with a “Clash of Artists,” segment in which youth competed to draw portraits within 10 minutes, showing off some of their extraordinary talents.

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TRADE MISSION: GCCCI attended the ‘CARIBCATION SAINT LUCIA’ event at the Marriott Hotel

On Friday, February 3, 2023, GCCCI’s Junior Vice President Mr. Kester Hutson, attended an event called ‘CARIBCATION SAINT LUCIA’, which was hosted by the Saint Lucia Tourism Authority at Marriott Hotel in Georgetown Guyana.

The Saint Lucia Tourism Authority led a sales mission in Guyana during the period February 1-6, 2023, in preparation for the inaugural flight with British Airways on March 27, 2023. The mission aimed to tap into the vastly expanding Guyana market to promote Saint Lucia’s tourism and attract more visitors.



Small Business Tip: Reduce Your Risks



Risk is an inevitable part of starting and growing a business. It’s impossible to control everything, but there are many ways to limit internal and external threats to your company and its growth. One important resource to help you accomplish this is your business insurance provider.

As your small business grows, you may add space or equipment, create new products or services, or increase your operating and distribution footprint. Therefore, DeHetre recommended reviewing your policy periodically to ensure you have the right coverage.



In photo: Dr. M. Haider Uzzaman; President of Intercon Guyana Inc., Mr. Kester Hutson; Junior Vice President, GCCCI and Mr. Roger Kavaner; Vice President, Intercon Guyana.

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COURTESY CALL:
Intercon Guyana paid Courtesy Call on the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI).

On February 8, 2022, Junior Vice President of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI), Mr. Kester Hutson, received a courtesy visit from Dr. M. Haider Uzzaman, President of Intercon Guyana Inc., accompanied by the company’s Vice President, Mr. Roger Kavaner.

During the meeting, the company expressed its desire to collaborate with the Chamber and also provided insight on its recent project to train and develop Guyana’s Human Resources for the Hospitality Industry. They also shared a few of their ongoing and upcoming projects.

The company has been in the services industry for the last 30+ years with a specialty in Airlines, Aviation, Car Rental, Security Services, Hotels and Resorts, Health Care Services, Technology and Investment Banking.

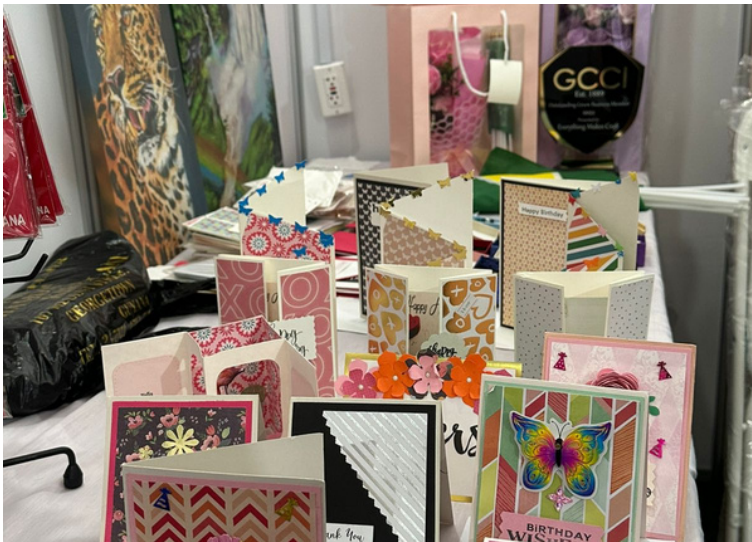


EVENTS:
SOL Guyana Inc. opened its new Shell Service Station on Mandela

Sol Guyana Incorporated has opened a new facility on Mandela Avenue to expand its commercial services. Dr. Rosh Khan, Councillor of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI) attended the ceremonial ribbon-cutting event to officially open the company’s newly commissioned Shell Service Station.

Congratulations SOL Guyana Inc. on your expansion. The GCCCI believes that this achievement will contribute to Guyana’s economic growth in addition to providing job opportunities. We wish you great success in this new venture.

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**SMALL BUSINESS:
MSMEs Capitalize on Membership Benefits:
Exhibits at local Energy Expo**

The International Energy Conference and Expo Guyana began on February 14, 2023 and members of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) were able to take advantage of our specially curated packages.

The Guyana Marriott Hotel in Georgetown hosted the 2nd International Energy Conference and Expo Guyana from February 14 to 17, 2023, under the theme “Harnessing Energy for Development.” Energy professionals from around the world gather in Guyana for this premier annual meeting to exchange ideas, propositions and plans for fundamental advances in the energy sector.

The Energy Conference fosters the development of strategic relationships and collaborations. The exhibition, which features local, regional, and international exhibitors, is a key component of the conference. In order to ensure that MSMEs benefit from the exposure provided by the conference’s exhibition, GCCI partnered with the international Energy conference to offer discounted rates to its members.

According to Ms. Ambika Ramraj, the Operations Coordinator, eight members took advantage of the Chamber’s packages. Six of them, she said, had used a package specially curated by the Chamber that allows smaller businesses to showcase what they do and what they have to offer.

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**EVENTS:
The GCCI hosted its second
President’s Reception**

The Entrepreneurship and Small Business Committee hosted its second President’s Reception on Thursday, February 9, 2023. This initiative is part of the membership onboarding process designed to provide Small and Micro-sized members with the opportunity to meet and network with the GCCI Council.

At the small but significant event, members were able to pitch their businesses as well as share their drive and motivation, and their expectations of joining the GCCI. Among the topics covered were access to finance, incorporation and business growth, marketing, and management.

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EVENTS:

GCCI attended a Cocktail hosted by 3t EnerMech

On Wednesday, February 15th, 2023, members of the Executive Management Committee of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Kester Hutson; Junior Vice President, and Ms. Shaleeza Shaw; Secretary, attended a cocktail hosted by 3t EnerMech in the backdrop of the ongoing International Energy Conference.

Mr. Alan Sharp, General Manager and Vice President of 3t EnerMech, gave the team a tour of the entire facility, including plans for expansion to construct a fully equipped Training Center.

According to Mr. Sharp, 3t EnerMech is supporting the Guyana Online Academy of Learning (GOAL) program and has partnered with the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB) to provide blended learning software and technology for high-hazard activity training. The facility has a skills hall, a welding and fabrication shop, rigging and lifting areas, and a 14-foot deep sea survival pool for building capacity and developing new skills. In his remarks, he expressed satisfaction with the progress made so far.

The company places high value on its human resources and in his words, “We want each day for our staff to complete their work safely and to go home to their families.”

The Lusignan base was constructed by the local ODITC joint venture (JV), which was formed between Guyana’s Orinduik Development Incorporated, Windsor Technologies and 3t EnerMech.

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EVENTS:

Consumer Confidence Indicator (CCI) launched by CoreStats

The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) attended the launch of Guyana’s first Consumer Confidence Indicator (CCI) on February 13, 2023, at the Pegasus Hotel. The event was organized by CoreStats in partnership with the Together We Win Business Network.

Annually, the team conducts a consumer survey in Guyana to better understand consumer behavior. Governments, organizations, and aspiring entrepreneurs can use the collected data to refine their consumer strategies with informed decisions. Moreover, it provides valuable information for optimizing marketing campaigns and maximizing ROI

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GCCI Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry
PRESENTS
Virtual Business Networking

TOPIC DISCUSSION: UNHEALTHY EMPLOYEES = LOSS OF PRODUCTIVITY
In the workplace, the economic burden of poor health includes not only medical and pharmaceutical expenses but also health-related productivity loss (HRPL) due to sick leave (absenteeism) and reduced performance while at work as a result of uncontrolled diseases or health risks (presenteeism). Join us to discuss how businesses can mitigate this risk and help employee overall wellbeing.

FOLLOWED BY 35 MINUTES OF BREAKOUT SESSIONS TO NETWORK IN SMALLER GROUPS WITH OTHER CHAMBER MEMBERS

Tuesday
28th, February 2023
11.00 AM - 12.30 PM
Online
Zoom

Hosted By:
EVIE GURCHURAN

An initiative by the
GCCI Entrepreneurship and Small Business Committee

Industry Pro Feature
DR. SURENDRA PERSAUD
General Surgeon/ Medical Director of Caribbean Surgery Inc

Small Business Feature
IAN DHANRAJ
Pharma-X Medical Clinic & Online Doctor

**COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHT:
GCCI's Entrepreneurship and Small business committee hosted a Virtual Business Networking Webinar**

The Entrepreneurship and Small Business Committee hosted a Virtual Business Networking webinar on February 28, 2022 to discuss unhealthy employees and how this can result in a loss of productivity in the workforce.

The Webinar was hosted by Ms. Evie Gurchuran, GCCI Councilor & Chair of the Entrepreneurship & Small Business committee and involved presentations from industry pro speaker Dr. Surendra Persaud who is the General Surgeon/Medical Director of Caribbean Surgery Inc. as well as a small business feature from Mr. Ian Dhanraj a Pharma X-Medical Clinic and online doctor.

The webinar focused on the economic burden that poor health causes in the workplace including not only medical and pharmaceutical expenses but also health-related productivity loss due to sick leave and absenteeism. Business men and women were provided with the opportunity to discuss how businesses can mitigate this risk and help employee overall wellbeing.



GCCI Trade Matters

Topics:
The Operation of CSME
The Importance & Functioning of COTED

Meet Our Speakers:
Ambassador Wayne McCook
Assistant Secretary General - CARICOM
Single Market and Trade (CSMT)
Ms. Natalie Rochester
Senior Technical Coordinator, 10th EDF Project
CARICOM Single Market and Trade (CSMT)
Mr. Bernard Black
International Customs and Trade Specialist

27 February, 2023
10:00am - 11:30am

An initiative by GCCI's Trade and Investment Committee

Scan to Register!

**COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHT:
GCCI's Trade and Investment Committee hosted a Trade Matters Webinar**

The Trade and Investment Committee of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry hosted a 'Trade Matters' ON February 27, 2023.

The operation of the CSME and the significance of the COTED were the main topics of discussion during this webinar. The Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) promotes trade and economic development of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and oversees the operations of the Single Market and Economy.

Business Tip: Provide Great Service



One trait that many successful startups have in common is the ability to switch directions quickly in response to changes in the market. Lannig said an agile approach to devThere are many successful businesses that forget that providing great customer service is important. If you provide better service for your customers, they'll be more inclined to come to you the next time they need something instead of going to your competition.

In today's hyper-competitive business environment, often the differentiating factor being successful and unsuccessful businesses is the level of service that the business provides. This is where the saying "undersell and overdeliver" comes in use, and savvy business owners would be wise to follow it.

Business Tip: Be Organized



To achieve business success you need to be organized. It will help you complete tasks and stay on top of things to be done. A good way to be organized is to create a to-do list each day. As you complete each item, check it off your list. This will ensure that you're not forgetting anything and completing all the tasks that are essential to the survival of your business.

Many software-as-a-service (SaaS) tools exist to increase organization. Tools like Slack, Asana, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, and other newer additions. That being said, a simple Excel spreadsheet will meet many of a business's organization requirements.

Business Tip: Be Creative



Always be looking for ways to improve your business and make it stand out from the competition. Recognize that you don't know everything and be open to new ideas and different approaches to your business. There are many outlets that may lead to additional revenues.

Take Amazon for example. The company started out as a bookseller and grew into an eCommerce giant. Not a lot of people expected that one of the major ways that Amazon makes its money is through its Web Services division. The division did so well that when Jeff Bezos stepped down as CEO, the head of Amazon Web Services was named the new CEO.



MEMBER OF THE MONTH



GTT Inc. is the leading provider of Fibre Services, serving clients across multiple industries with secure, reliable, and scalable solutions for both residential and business customers. Founded in 1991, the company has grown to become a major player in the telecommunications industry. At GTT, we are focused on enabling the transformational experience to our customers by providing flexible, agile, and efficient Fibre, Mobile, and Business solutions that suits every customer. Our portfolio of services includes high-speed internet connectivity, cloud networking, PBX, Mobile and Data services, and WAN solutions. We have a comprehensive local network with international support, ensuring that our clients stay connected.

As a leading player in the telecommunications industry, GTT is committed to staying ahead of the curve and embracing the latest technologies to meet the needs of 21st-century customers. GTT Inc. is a dynamic and innovative telecommunications company with a foundation of over 32 years – we are proud to revolutionize telecommunications in Guyana.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT!

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UPCOMING

EVENTS

BGM

Launch of GCCI's Business Guyana Magazine

VOL 13



UPCOMING EVENTS



Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry

"Serving Guyana through Commerce and Industry since 1889"

President: Mr. Timothy Tucker



GEORGETOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the **133rd Annual General Meeting** of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry (GCCCI) will be held on **Wednesday, March 22nd, 2023**, via **Zoom** at **15:15 hours** for the following purposes:

Agenda

1. Reading of the Notice Convening the Meeting
2. Presentation of the President's 2022/2023 Report
3. Auditors' Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.
4. Resolutions
5. Election of the 2023/2024 Council
6. Appointment of an Auditor
7. Consideration of any business or motion as may properly come before the meeting.

All members are reminded to be in good financial standing with the Chamber.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZMoccGpqDssH91L2s6suAVJ3-U4SRI.ncA86>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL

Rene Daniels

Proper Officer

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Serving Guyana through Commerce and Industry