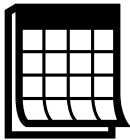


VOLUME 22
JUNE 2024



NEWSLETTER

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



JUNE
IN REVIEW



UPCOMING
EVENTS



NEW
MEMBERS



MEMBER OF
THE MONTH



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Readers,

The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI) remains steadfast in its mission to represent the business community while encouraging collaboration. The month of June saw a number of strategic engagements that were geared toward advancing members' concerns and improving the economic climate and quality of life in Guyana, while fostering a stable and sustainable economic and social environment in the country.



As we end the first half of the year, we continue to advocate on matters relating to access to finance for members, traffic management, access to affordable and reliable energy as well as local content utilisation. The inculcation of Sustainable Development Goals in the operations of our members, particularly as it relates to matters surrounding labour was also examined. As the leading private sector organisation in Guyana, the GCCCI supported the launch of a countrywide campaign on countering hate speech, which is geared at encouraging inclusivity in the workplace and the utilisation of the public platforms of our membership to further this message.

As part of our advocacy, the Chamber engaged a number of stakeholders including the Ministry of Natural Resources and Local Content Secretariat, the United Nations, the Guyana Securities Council, the Institute for Private Enterprise Development, and the Traffic Department. Our committees also continued their efforts to build not only the capacity of members, but also contribute to food security, through internal information-based sessions, training for farmers, and national development by supporting the National Skills Audit.

These activities are all aligned with the mission of the GCCCI. The Chamber remains enthusiastic in our objectives of promoting trade and investment, while fostering opportunities for the growth and development of our members.

Regards,
Kester Hutson
President – Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry

WELCOME TO THE GCCI

In June 2024, 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:

AN Pins and Gifts	Green Works Landscaping and Fire Extinguisher Services
RMI Global Solutions Guyana Inc.	Amaila Apartments
Cornerstone Construction Inc.	S.A General Services
Dr. Balwant Singh's Hospital Inc.	Rollerz Auto
Inter Caribbean Port Inc.	By Divine Inspiration
MEP Engineering Services Inc.	Roots Construction
G & L Office Guyana Inc.	Pleasure Me
Globus Payments (Guyana) Inc.	Headstart Delivery Services
MODEC	Florals By Shari
Crown Builders & Logistics	Wallet Wisdom
iDental Inc.	The Care Box
Melaninaire	Ultra Care Medical Centre Inc.

Building the capacity of farmers to meet the needs of an evolving market

-GCCCI facilitates agriculture capacity-building workshop in Regions Three and Five



The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI) continues to play a pivotal role in enhancing the capacity of local farmers to meet evolving market demands.

On June 4, GCCCI's Agriculture Committee, chaired by Mr. Brian Edwards, organised an agriculture capacity-building workshop at the Belle West Multicomplex, West Bank Demerara, followed by a session in Blairmont, West Bank Berbice on June 27.

These initiatives saw collaboration with stakeholders like the World University Service of Canada, the National Agricultural Research and Extension Institute, the New Guyana Marketing Corporation, and the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Control Board, who provided insights on market access, good agricultural practices, and climate-smart innovations.

Additionally, the Small Business Bureau and the Guyana Bank for Trade and Industry (GBTI) offered information on financial access, including a \$300,000 collateral-free loan for poultry farmers.

Several farmers received pesticide storage cabinets during the workshops. These workshops have been held across various regions over the past years, aiming to equip micro, small, and medium-scale farmers with the knowledge required to thrive in a market increasingly reliant on high-quality produce due to rising import demands.



SMALL BUSINESS TIP

Communicate the Right Way: For more effective communication, first, ask these questions.

- What is the goal?
- Who needs to hear this?
- How should I pass the message across?

EVENTS

GCCI and Dominican Republic Chamber of Commerce in Guyana sign MoU for economic cooperation and promoting bilateral business relations



On June 3, the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) and the Dominican Republic Chamber of Commerce in Guyana (DRCham Guyana) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) geared towards promoting the development of business relations, bilateral trade, and investment between the Dominican Republic and Guyana.

President of the GCCI, Mr. Kester Hutson and President of DRCham Guyana, Mr. Miguel Angel Gonzalez Gottlieb signed the agreement at the office of the Dominican Republic Chamber of Commerce in Guyana, in Kingston, Georgetown. The basis of the MoU is a shared desire for the diversification of commercial exchanges and economic cooperation on a mutually advantageous basis between the members of the respective chambers.

This MoU is expected to facilitate the exchange of information on the possibilities of cooperation relating to products and services as well as promotional and marketing opportunities, legislation and regulations within the respective jurisdictions, and foster networking.

SMALL BUSINESS TIP

Barriers to communication: Team building is very important in an organisation. Lack of trust can create a huge interpersonal barrier in communication

GCCI President lobbies private sector to combat hate speech



President of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI), Mr. Kester Hutson on June 18, urged members of the private sector to utilise their influence and public platforms to combat hate speech and foster inclusivity.

Mr. Hutson was at the time addressing the launch of the ‘National Campaign on Hate Speech’ at the National Library, Georgetown. The campaign launch coincided with the International Day for Countering Hate Speech, and was a collaborative effort between the United Nations (UN) and the Ethnic Relations Commission.

The GCCI President stated that hate speech is a poison that fuels discrimination, violence and social unrest, and the eradication of this social scourge requires collective action. “As private sector leaders, we have a unique platform to promote inclusivity, diversity, and respect. We can leverage our influence to create a culture of empathy and understanding. We can use our marketing channels, social media, and community outreach programmes to spread positive messages and counter hate speech,” he posited.

The GCCI is committed to its role of countering discrimination and promoting inclusivity. In 2023, the Chamber and the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office signed a Joint Declaration of Intent for cooperation in meeting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Guyana, which included an agreement to enlist the private sector as a critical advocate of the elimination of hate, and the promotion of human rights.

SMALL BUSINESS TIP

Prioritise two-way Communication: Effective communication in the workplace involves speaking, active listening, and feedback. Both parties need to understand each other.

Practice active listening: To avoid missing important information, don’t listen to a coworker just so you can reply. Instead, listen to understand them. Maintain eye contact with the speaker, jot down whatever comes to your mind while they’re speaking, and respond with relevant gestures to show you’re listening.

Embrace feedback: Ask your team members for feedback on your message and communication style, and note their comments and concerns. They can share such information during meetings or drop them anonymously in suggestion boxes. You can also offer feedback, but do it thoughtfully.

GCCI supports Traffic Department in capacity-building session for stakeholders



In keeping with its core values of commitment and collaboration, the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) on June 22, engaged the Guyana Police Force's Traffic Department and the National Road Safety Coordinator during the monthly stakeholder meeting at the Officer's Training Center, Eve Leary, Georgetown.

The engagement saw court prosecutors, inspectors, traffic officers, and certifying officers benefiting from capacity-building on traffic education and enforcement. Discussions were led by Traffic Chief, Senior Superintendent, Mahendra Singh and Deputy Traffic Chief, Superintendent Shellon Daniels. GCCI Security and Governance Committee Chairperson, Mr. Paul Archer, and Committee Members Ms. Shaleeza Shaw and Mr. Charles Williams were in attendance.

Mr. Williams, who addressed the gathering, iterated the importance of collaboration between the private sector and the GPF, saying, "This partnership is crucial as it allows us to combine resources, share knowledge, and develop strategies that enhance public safety and efficiency. By working closely together, we can better understand the challenges each side faces and develop comprehensive solutions that benefit the entire community."

Mr. Williams also provided guidance on public interactions, with the objective of fostering a better relationship between members of the Police Force and the public. He underscored the importance of mutual respect and trust between the private sector and the Police Force, noting that this can lead to a more resilient and cohesive society through the implementation of innovative solutions and the leveraging of new technologies. This initiative follows a meeting on June 19 between the GCCI and the Traffic Department, during which the Chamber committed to collaborating with the GPF for the promotion of road safety.

SMALL BUSINESS TIP

Build Your Communication Skills: Effective workplace communication starts with you developing good communication skills.

Be clear: To communicate effectively, be clear about your goal, use easy-to-understand words and avoid incomplete sentences. Also, provide context when communicating with your team. For example, when setting expectations, share samples and highlight the groups that should be involved and those that will be affected by the output. Also, encourage employees to ask questions to minimise errors and maximise productivity.

GCCI participates in ongoing National Skills Audit



The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) continued its participation in the National Skills Audit, with Chairperson of the Entrepreneurship and Small Business Committee, Mrs. Evie Kanhai-Gurchuran engaging in the review of the questionnaire that will be used.

On June 13, Mrs. Kanhai-Gurchuran joined a number of stakeholders including the Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Natural Resources, the Board of Industrial Training, and the Canada-Guyana Chamber of Commerce at the Guyana Tourism Authority's Conference Room, where the questions on the data-gathering tool were scrutinised. Mrs. Kanhai-Gurchuran highlighted the importance of studying the impact of culture on the labour force, particularly as it relates to women, and as such she recommended that the inquiries provide room for this area to be probed.

It is anticipated that in five years, Guyana will need an additional 52,000 skilled workers; however, there exists a deficit. The National Skills Audit was commissioned by the Government of Guyana under the Strengthening Human Capital through Education Project and is being conducted by Dunn, Pierre Barnett, and Company Canada Limited (DPBA) with a view of providing baseline information for the upskilling of the local labour force. In February, the GCCI met with DPBA and made initial contributions to the study as it relates to challenges facing the private sector in regard to human capital.

GCCI presents recommendations for monetisation of Guyana's natural gas

The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) engaged SP Global, the company that was contracted by the Government of Guyana to craft the country's Gas Monetisation Strategy.

Chairperson of the GCCI's Green Economy Committee and Councillor, Mr. Delmar Walcott met with the team from SP Global at the Ministry of Natural Resources on June 13. During the meeting, Mr. Walcott presented several suggestions on the utilisation of the country's natural gas that will be transported onshore via a pipeline at Wales, West Bank Demerara, including the establishment of a local liquefaction plant for the gas to be containerised and distributed around Guyana, particularly for the benefit of the manufacturing sector.



He highlighted that the gas could be supplied to local transportation and accommodation industry players.

Fostering diversity and inclusion in the business arena -GCCCI and SASOD collaborate for Pride mixer

On June 28, the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI) partnered with the Society Against Sexual Orientation Discrimination (SASOD) for the hosting of the second annual Pride Month Mixer. The event was coordinated by the Chamber's Membership and Diversity Committee and hosted at 'Fresh' restaurant. Members of the LGBTQ community were able to meet and interact with Councillors of the GCCCI, and they were provided the opportunity to have their businesses become members of the Chamber.



MEETINGS

GCCI Executives meet with ExxonMobil Guyana team -Lobbies for open dialogue and information-sharing for members' benefit

On May 29, a team from ExxonMobil Guyana visited the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) and met with several members of the Executive Committee to discuss areas for collaboration.

President of the GCCI, Mr. Kester Hutson; Councillor and Executive Member, Mr. Richard Rambarran; Senior Vice President, Mrs. Kathy Smith and Chairman of the Agriculture Committee, Mr. Brian Edwards engaged ExxonMobil Guyana's Production Manager, Mr. Huzefa Ali and Government Relations Advisor, Ms. Teijvarti Persaud on the Chamber's history, role, objectives and achievements.

The GCCI iterated its focus on strategic collaboration, and the push for sustainability, equity and continuity among members, while also lobbying for open dialogue on relevant matters such as local content development and payment timelines.



Among the potential areas for engagement discussed was a call by the GCCI for increased information-sharing and industry updates for members' benefit.

The ExxonMobil Guyana team expressed their desire to work closer with the GCCI and be more active in their engagements.

GCCI and CDB discuss capacity-building initiatives for agri-sector

The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) and representatives of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) met to discuss the pursuit of several capacity-building initiatives that will benefit Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSME) in Guyana, with special focus on the agriculture sector—particularly small-scale farmers.



In attendance at the meeting were the CDB's Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise (MSME) Consultant, Ms. Allyson Francis and Senior Operations Officer, Mr. Michel Thomas, and a team from the GCCI that included Senior Vice President, Mrs. Kathy Smith; Councillor and Executive Member, Mr. Richard Rambarran; Treasurer and Chairperson of the Agriculture Committee, Mr. Brian Edwards, and Trade and Investment Consultant, Ms. Jessica Campbell.

Discussions revolved around the 'Improving Quality Standards of Agro-Processors through Training' Project, and expanding current initiatives that are geared towards capacity-building such as funding the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) certification for agro-processors. HACCP is a food safety management system that caters to the analysis of food safety hazards from production to consumption of a product, which will enable agro-processors to establish safe and proper production environments.

There is also keen interest in introducing new programmes that target women farmers, in order to empower them to grow crops that they can transform into value-added products.

GCCI and IPED discuss collaboration for access to finance and capacity-building for members



(From left to right- IPED's Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Jagdesh Haripershad; Secretary of the GCCI, Ms. Melisa George; Chairperson of the Entrepreneurship and Small Business Committee, Mrs. Evie Kanhai-Gurcharan, and IPED's Business Development/Marketing Manager, Mr. Robert Williams)

On June 6, the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) engaged the Institute of Private Enterprise Development (IPED) to discuss collaborating on capacity-building initiatives and access to finance for members.

Chairperson of the Entrepreneurship and Small Business Committee, Mrs. Evie Kanhai-Gurcharan and Secretary of the GCCI, Mrs. Melisa McRae-George met with IPED's Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Jagdesh Haripershad, and Business Development/Marketing Manager, Mr. Robert Williams.

The discussions centered on providing training for members of the Chamber as well as ease of access to low-interest financing, particularly for the benefit of micro and small businesses. These engagements are in keeping with the GCCI's mission to stimulate trade and investment and expand member opportunities.

GCCI engages Local Content Secretariat on Local Content Legislation



In June, Senior Vice President, Mrs. Kathy Smith, Advocacy, Business and Economic Affairs Committee Members—Mr. Devon Seeram and Mr. Nicholas Deygoo-Boyer, and Councillor, Mr. Richard Rambarran

engaged the Local Content Secretariat on several issues related to the implementation of the Local Content Act and potential updates to the legislation.

Among the areas of discussion were the de-registering of companies that lose their Local Content Certificate, the publication of ExxonMobil's prime contractors' in-country spend, re-examination of the percentage requirements for nationalisation of general labor and senior management roles, flouting of the local content legislation, and amendments to the niche areas for Guyanese companies to include 23 additional areas.

GCCI and Guyana Securities Council discuss collaboration for access to capital markets for members



(From left to right- Junior Vice President, Mr. Gavin Ramsoondar; Secretary, Mrs. Melisa McRae-George; GSC's Compliance Officer, Attorney-at-law Alanna Lall; GSC's Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Cheryl Ibbott; President of GCCI, Mr. Kester Hutson; Senior Vice President, Mrs. Kathy Smith, and Treasurer, Mr. Brian Edwards.)

The Executive Management Committee of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) met with the Guyana Securities Council (GSC) on June 12 to discuss collaborating in the area of access to capital markets for members' benefit.

President of GCCI, Mr. Kester Hutson; Senior Vice President, Mrs. Kathy Smith; Junior Vice President, Mr. Gavin Ramsoondar; Secretary, Mrs. Melisa McRae-George, and Treasurer, Mr. Brian Edwards met with Chief Executive Officer of GSC, Ms. Cheryl Ibbott, and Compliance Officer, Attorney-at-law Alanna Lall.

Discussions focused on how members of the Chamber can access equity financing in Guyana, and the role the Council plays in regulating the sector. The Chamber's delegation expressed an interest in collaborating with the Council on information-sharing in this regard.

SMALL BUSINESS TIP

Build Your Communication Skills - Remain courteous: To enhance effective communication in the workplace, you need to practice respectful communication and work through differences positively. Even during disagreements, try to stay polite, avoiding offensive words. Also, watch your body language and facial expressions, and use the right tone, so you don't give off unintentional cues.

GCCI and UN continue collaboration on achieving Sustainable Development Goals



(From left to right- Planning and Coordination Specialist of UN Women, Ms. Akilah Dorris; Programme Analyst for Poverty and Governance of the United Nations Development Programme, Ms. Nadira Balram; Head of the Resident Coordinator's Office, Mr. William Evans; Communications Associate and Business Portfolio Lead of UNICEF Guyana/Suriname, Mr. Frank Robinson; GCCI's Treasurer, Mr. Brian Edwards; President of GCCI, Mr. Kester Hutson; UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Yesim Oruc; Councillor of the GCCI, Mr. Richard Rambarran, and GCCI's Junior Vice President, Mr. Gavin Ramsoondar.)

The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) is continuing its collaboration with the United Nations (UN) Resident Coordinator's Office in propelling the attainment of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

On June 12, the Executive Management Committee of the GCCI met with a team from the UN to discuss the implementation of a Joint Declaration of Intent signed in 2023 by the GCCI and the UN's Office of the Resident Coordinator, for cooperation in meeting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Guyana.

President of GCCI, Mr. Kester Hutson; Junior Vice President, Mr. Gavin Ramsoondar; Councillor and Ex-Officio Member, Mr. Richard Rambarran, and Treasurer, Mr. Brian Edwards met with UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Yesim Oruc; Head of the Resident Coordinator's Office, Mr. William Evans; Communications Officer of the Resident Coordinator's Office, Mrs. Colette Hytmiah-Singh; Programme Analyst for Poverty and Governance of the United Nations Development Programme, Ms. Nadira Balram; Communications Associate and Business Portfolio Lead of UNICEF Guyana/Suriname, Mr. Frank Robinson, and Planning and Coordination Specialist of UN Women, Ms. Akilah Dorris.

Special focus was placed on 'sustainable development in business', particularly relating to labour practices and child rights. The GCCI highlighted the establishment of the Agriculture and Women in Business Committees, as well as the policy of a third of the Council being women, which are aligned with the SDGs. Considerations for the amending of the Code of Conduct to reflect more sustainable development elements were also discussed.

SMALL BUSINESS TIP

Stay open-minded: Make sure your employees feel comfortable approaching you with ideas or concerns. That means you must keep considering their thoughts and attending to them respectfully, even when busy. And if you have concerns about an employee's behavior or performance, discuss it with them instead of making assumptions.

COMMITTEES' HIGHLIGHTS

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Virtual Business Networking session held on tackling barriers to communication

On June 6, the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) Entrepreneurship and Small Business Committee hosted a Virtual Business Networking session that was geared towards providing members with valuable insights on the importance of effective communication in business.

Focused on barriers to communication, presentations were led by Committee members Brian Smith and Deborah Doodnat, and provided practical solutions for improving communication skills. These sessions are a monthly initiative aimed at providing members of the GCCI with the skillset necessary for improved efficiency and productivity in their businesses, while simultaneously offering a networking platform for businesses.



SECURITY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

GCCI and GPF Traffic Department discuss collaborative initiatives to address road safety

On June 18, President of the GCCI, Mr. Kester Hutson; Chairperson of the Security and Governance Committee, Mr. Paul Archer, and Committee Members Ms. Shaleeza Shaw, Mr. Sean Kirkpatrick, Mr. Sean Ramrattan, Mr. Tyrone Williams and Mr. Rayad Boyce met with Traffic Chief, Senior Superintendent Mahendra Singh, Sergeant Richard Trotz and Sergeant Nicholas Higgins.

The Traffic Chief took the opportunity to share some of the challenges that the Traffic Department is facing, including increasing cases of Driving Under the Influence of alcohol, speeding and inattentive drivers, inconsiderate use of the roadways and poorly maintained vehicles, while the team from the GCCI shared these concerns, noting that the increasing number of accidents and road fatalities are a grave concern to the Chamber. The two parties discussed collaborative initiatives that can be executed to raise road safety awareness among the members of the Chamber as well as the general public and agreed to execute the activities discussed.



SMALL BUSINESS TIP

Get a Team Communication App: Without good team communication, there will be miscommunications, especially since many organisations are now hybrid or remote. But with team communication platforms, whether UCaaS or CPaaS, employees can communicate, stay up to date and collaborate on projects. They can meet to carry out their tasks, share relevant information and discuss upcoming tasks. Communication apps include project management tools, video conferencing tools and voice-over-internet-protocol services.

COMMITTEES' HIGHLIGHTS

GREEN ECONOMY COMMITTEE

Members benefit from information session on Environmental, Social, and Governance principles

On June 12, the Green Economy Committee held a webinar that delved into Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles. Held under the theme, 'Aligning with Global Standards: Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Compliance and Reporting for Business Sustainability in Guyana', the online session was moderated by Committee Member, Ms. Candelle Bostwick.

The presentations were delivered by Oil and Gas Expert Business Strategist, Mr. Yasir Abdel Moniem; ESG Consultant Specialist, Mr. Ahmed Elldrisy, and Councillor of the GCCI and Country Manager for ICON LNG, Mr. Delmar Walcott. Attendees benefited from information on the fundamental aspects of effective ESG integration and reporting, emphasising their significance in aligning with international benchmarks and maintaining competitiveness in the global marketplace.

The session also included insights on practical steps for ESG implementation in Guyana for the enhancement of competitiveness and responsibility in the global market.



HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

HR Committee facilitates webinar with NIS

On June 20, the Human Resource Management and Capacity Building Committee facilitated an online presentation to members by the National Insurance Scheme (NIS).

Training Manager for NIS, Mr. Dane Chesney provided useful insights into the requirements for registration with NIS and the process, payment of contributions and employer's responsibilities, the importance of record-keeping, and an overview of the benefits of NIS.

"The HR Committee is always looking for opportunities to have information sessions and webinars for members, and today's webinar is an important one, especially because NIS affects us all, whether it is from a company and business perspective or from an individual perspective," Chairperson of the Committee, Mrs. Melisa McRae-George stated.



SMALL BUSINESS TIP

Organise Communication Training Sessions: Consider holding regular communication training sessions so that both team leaders and employees can grasp basic communication skills that improve workplace communication. Hold training sessions physically or meet online over Google Meet or Zoom or any other communication platform. You can also use webinar tools for training so that old and new employees can always access them.

JUNE 2024: MEMBER OF THE MONTH

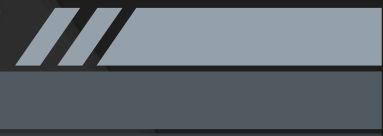
PRAETORIAN EXECUTIVE PROTECTION SERVICES



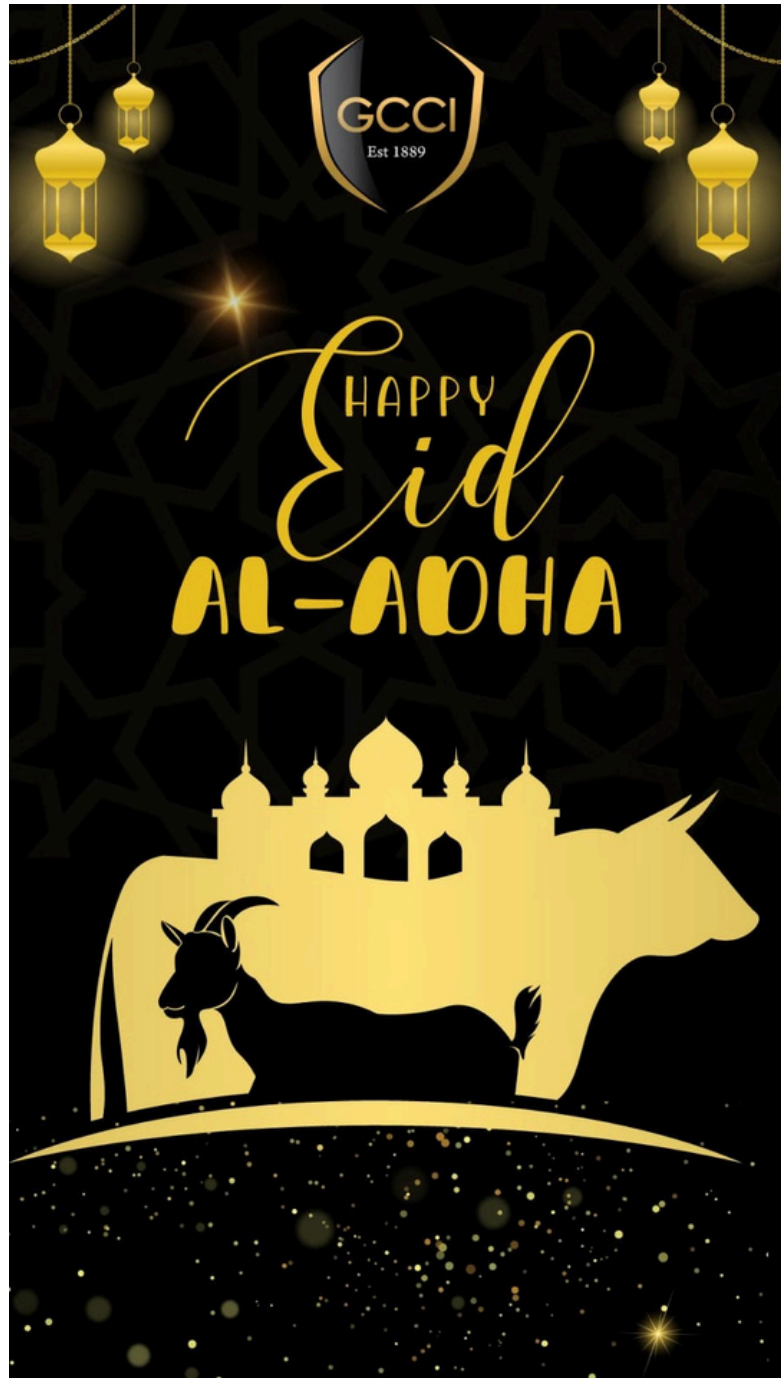
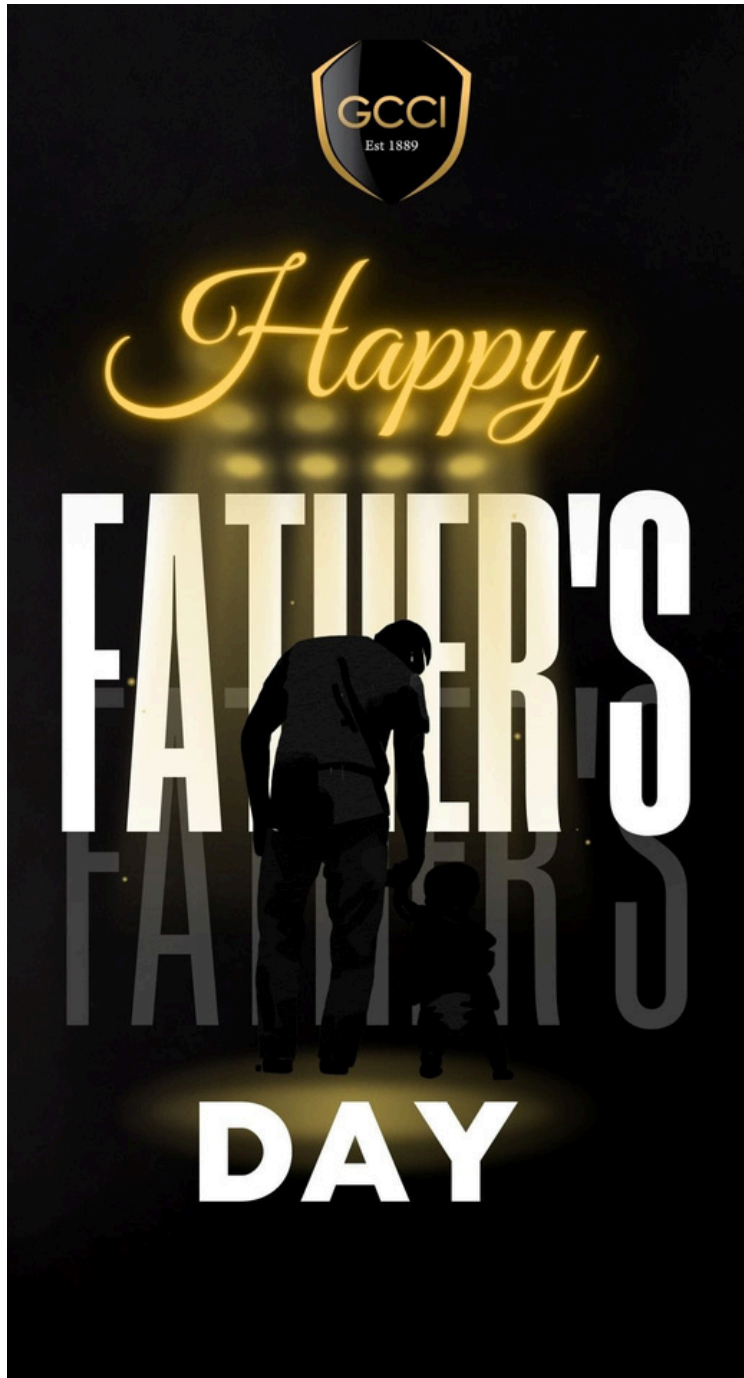
Praetorian Executive Protection Services Incorporated is a 100-percent Guyanese-owned company that has been offering security services for organisations and private clients in Guyana over the last five years.

Located at 160 Waterloo Street, Georgetown, the firm provides a range of services including Executive Protection, Corporate Security, Residential Security, Corporate Investigations, Asset Recovery, Close Protection and Escort Services, Real Estate Security Surveys, Risk and Threat Assessments, Technical Surveillance Countermeasures such as Anti-Bugging Sweep Detection, Sensitive Document Destruction, CPR, AED and First Aid Training, Situational Awareness Training and Certifications, Certified Protection Officer Training and Certification, Executive Drivers Course, Self-Defense Courses, Weapons Training, Use of Force Continuum, Client Engagement Courses, Fire Safety Training, Use of Communications Equipment training, and Rules of Engagement training.

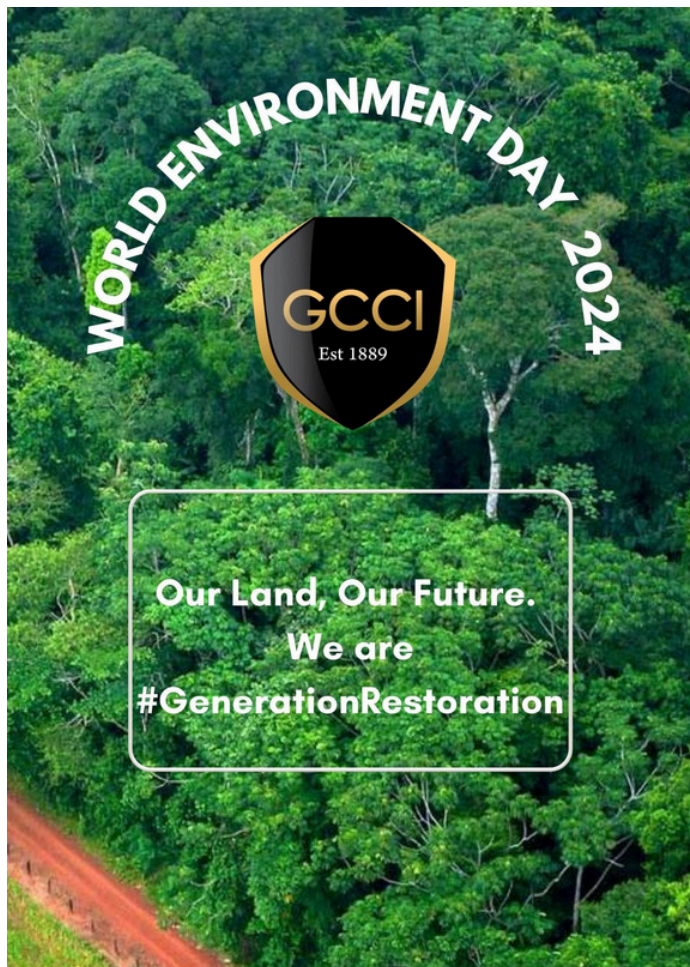
The company was founded by Mr. Dallas Thomas Jr. and Mr. Keiron Brathwaite, who serve as the Chief Executive Officer and Director, respectively. Ms. Melissa Vieira serves as the Administrative Lead, and they collectively possess senior leadership experience of 45 years in the security sector. Mr. Thomas Jr. is a naturalised Guyanese and retired U.S Army Special Operations Combat Veteran with over 20 years of military experience, who served in both Iraq and Afghanistan. He is a Certified Protection Officer, Situational Awareness Specialist - Advanced Practitioner, and also certified as an Executive Protection Specialist. He possesses a Bachelor's Degree in Healthcare Management with a minor in Business Management. Mr. Brathwaite is a Finance and Business professional with over 10 years of experience in working with large multi-regional companies and leading multinational brands. He is the holder of a Finance Degree and Marketing Diploma. Meanwhile, Ms. Vieira—a Human Resource expert—is a retired U.S Air Force Officer, with over 20 years of service in the U.S, Iraq, and Afghanistan.



MESSAGES & STATEMENTS



MESSAGES & STATEMENTS



UPCOMING EVENTS

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Over 500 delegates and 40 investors from across the globe are expected to take part in CIF 2024. The event will serve to connect investors and bankable business projects, as well as providing networking and business to business (B2B) opportunities.

Tickets are now available at www.caribbeaninvestmentforum.com