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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

1994

ANOTHER CHANCE TO CHOOSE

VOTE
FOR
YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD
COUNCIL.

FACT
SHEET
Nº 1

MARCH 1994

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Ex slaves pooled their savings to buy estates to enjoy the pleasure of ownership and free themselves from the physical domination of the planters. Estates became villages e.g. Victoria, Buxton Beterverwagting, Danielstown, Aberdeen, Litchfield, Rose Hall etc.

This early village system was managed by a committee system. Committees were elected by villagers including women as early as 1845.

The Local Government System in Guyana was formally accepted by the Colonial Government in

1845 – an ordinance established a Board of Commissioners for Roads and Bridges;

1859 – A Board for drainage and sanitary purposes was formed

1892 – The Village ordinance granted Local Self Government;

1907 – The Public Health Ordinance was passed;

1932 – The District Commissioner system was created to guide Village Administration;

1935 – An ordinance was passed to legalise and improve the system of Elections.

THE MARSHALL SURVEY – 1955

Dr A. H. Marshall appointed by the B.G. Constitution Commission recommended.

1 – A one tier system of Local Government

2 – That the Local Government Board be abolished

3 – That the entire coastland including Sugar Estates should come under Local Government

4 – The introduction of District Councils

5 – Registration for voting should not
depend upon the possession of
"Title."

6 – Greater suse should be made of
the Committee system.

Dr A.H. Marshall's comprehensive
report was formally accepted in 1964.
It was known as the Marshall Plan.
By 1972 the valuation for Rating
purposes Act was passed (1969) and the
Local Government Board was abolished
(1972).

The Municipal & District Councils
Act 1970 regulates the functions of
all Local Government Councils.

LOCAL DEMOCRATIC ORGANS

The 1980 Constitution stipulates in
Article 71 that "Local Government, as
a vital aspect of Socialist Democracy,
should be so organised as to involve
as many people as possible in the task
of managing and developing the commun-
ity in which they live."

The Regional System was devised to
give impetys to the mobilisation of
"as many people as possible."

Guyana was divided in 10 Regions
and a Local Authority Council – The
Regional Democratic Council is elected
to admini ster the Affairs of each
Region – excluding the towns.

A Region is further subdivided into
Sub-Regions into Districts into
Communities into Neighbourhoods into
People's Cooperative Units.

The Neighbourhood Unit (Sub-
division) is the most closely related
unit to the traditional Local Authority
Units called Village or Districts.

According to the Law L.D.O. Act
No. 12 of 1980 Section 6. Each Local
Democratic Organ and the members and
officers within its area shall have
the duty

a – To maintain and protect public
property;

b – To protect and improve the physical
environment;

c - to improve working and living
conditions;

d - to stimulate economic activities
and improve production and
efficiency;

e - To promote the social and
cultural life of people;

f - to raise the level of civic
consciousness;

g - to preserve law and order;

h - to consolidate socialist legality

i - to safeguard the rights of the
people; and

j - to give advice, encouragement and
support to the people in their
daily activities and to give
leadership by example.

The Local Democratic Organs (Area)
(Amendment) Order 1994 provides for
the neighbourhood Democratic Council
to be the primary Local Government
Authority similar to and with powers
conferred on a Village/District
Council by the Local Government Act
Cap. 28:02.

The Towns and Neighbourhoods due
for elections are listed over leaf and
show the number of Councillors.

A list of Candidates not less
than the seats on a council and not
exceeding 10 more of that number may
be submitted by 50 - 60 persons wish-
ing to contest the elections in any
Neighbourhood or Town.

Based on the number of popular
votes received, seats will be allocat-
ed to parties/groups that contested.
The Representative of the List of
Candidates will name the candidates to
take up the seats allocated.

The council at the first sitting
will elect it's Chairman and Vice
Chairman for a Neighbourhood Democratic
Council and the Mayor and Deputy
Mayor for a Town.

Each of these councils will
manage its own affairs but will come

under the supervision and purview
of the Minister responsible for
Local Democratic Organs through
the Regional Democratic Councils

This arrangement is expected
to promote continuity of purpose
and an orderly development process
complementing Central Government
activities and programmes.

In effect, the objectives of the
new system of Local Democracy
should:

1 - revolutionise our economy and
    society;
2 - remove the remaining traces and
    incidence of poverty and e
    exploitation;
3 - build a new system and state in
    place of the old which has
    proved inadequate and
4 - develop Guyana into a prosperous
    and just society where the
    people's welfare and happiness
    are transcendental.

With those stated objectives, the
organisation ofthe Local Government
System is expected to "create self-
reliance, productive and prosperous
communities of people who understand
the nature of national development and
accept individual and collective
responsibility for the task.

Port Kaituma, Matthew's Ridge	(18)
Arakaka	
Mabaruma/Kumaka/Hosororo	(18)
Charity/Urasara	(18)
Evergreen/Paradise	(18)
Aberdeen/Zorg-en-Vlygt	(18)
Annandale/Riverstown	(18)
Good Hope/Pomona	(18)
Wakenaam	(18)
Leguan	(18)
Mora/Parika	(15)
Hydronie/Good Hope	(12)
Greenwich Park/Vergenoegen	(15)
Tuschen/Uitvlugt	(18)
Stewartville/Cornelia Ida	(18)
Hauge/Blankenburg	(15)
La Jalousie/Nouvelle Flanders	(18)
Best/Klien Pouderoyen	(18)
Malgre Tout/Meer-Zorgen	(15)
La Grange/Nismes	(18)
Canals Polder	(18)
Toevlugt/Patentia	(18)
Soesdyke/Huist Coverden	(18)
Caledonia/Good Success	(18)
Golden Grove/Diamond Place	(18)
Moaha/Arcadia	(18)
Little Diamond/Herstelling	(18)
Ramsburg/Eccles	(18)
Industry/Plaisance	(18)
Better Hope/La Bonne Intention	(18)
Beterverwagting/Triumph	(18)
Mon Repos/La Reconnaissance	(18)
Buxton/Foulis	(18)
Enmore/Hope	(18)
Haslington/Grove	(18)
Unity/Vereeniging	(18)
Cane Grove	(18)
Woodlands/Farm	(18)
Hamlet/Chance	(12)
Mahaicony/Abary	(18)
Profit/Rising Sun	(15)
Sea Field/Tempe	(15)
Union/Naarstigheid	(18)
Bath/Woodley Park	(18)
Woodlands/Bel Air	(18)

Zeelust/Rosignol	(18)
Balirmont/Gelderland	(18)
Enfield/New Deo Park	(18)
Kintyre/No. 37 or Borlam	(15)
Gibralter/Fyrish	(18)
Ordnance Fort Island/No. 38	(18)
Cane Field/Enterprise	(18)
Kilcoy/Hampshire	(18)
Port Mourant/John	(18)
Bloomfield/Whim	(18)
Lancaster/Hogstye	(18)
Adventure/No. 28 or Bush Lot	(18)
Maida/Tarogie	(18)
Macedonia/Joppa	(15)
Black Bush Polder	(18)
No. 52/No. 74	(18)
Good Hope/No. 51	(18)
Crabwood Creek/Molseon	(18)
Bartica	(18)
Ireng/Sawariwau	(12)
Kwakwani	(18)

TOWNS

Georgetown	(30)
New Amsterdam	(15)
Linden	(20)
Corriverton	(15)
Rose Hall	(12)
Anna Regina	(15)

EDWARD HOPKINSON
CHAIRMAN

GET REGISTERED AND VOTE

MOSES KEMPADOO
Comm. Member

RALPH RAHKARRAN
Comm. Member

JOCELYN DOW
Comm. Member

MOEM MC DOOM
Comm. Member

WINSTON MOORE
Comm. Member

MARK MOONSAMMY
Comm. Member

STANLEY SINGH
COMM. OF REG.

LANCE FERREIRA
EXEC. SECTY.