

# House of Assembly

*in Motion*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### PG.1

Message from The Speaker

### PG.2

Cuba meets SVG

### PG.3-4

Around the Parliament

### PG.5

Acts



## MESSAGE FROM THE SPEAKER

### A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

The year 2022 was yet another active one in the Parliamentary life of the House of the Assembly with the passage of 26 Bills. I wish to thank all Members of Parliament, staff, members of the Royal St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force, personnel from the Agency for Public Information, the Chief Medical Officer and nurses from the Community Nursing Division of the Ministry of Health, and all other agencies and persons who assisted in the success of this parliamentary session. Best wishes for a prosperous 2023!

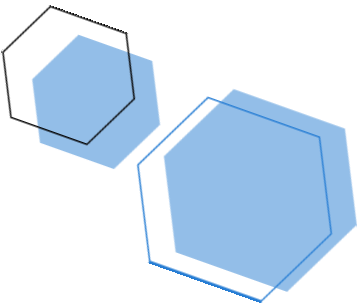
*Rochelle A. Forde*

# CUBA MEETS SVG

## A FRIENDLY VISIT

On 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 the House of Assembly welcomed His Excellency Miguel Díaz Canel President of the Republic of Cuba, during the first state visit of a sitting president of that nation. After having received the salute and inspecting the guard, His Excellency, the Honourable Prime Minister Dr Ralph Gonsalves and the Honourable Leader of the Opposition Dr Godwin Friday, were escorted by the Speaker and the Clerk of the House of Assembly to the Speaker's Office, prior to the commencement of the special sitting of the House of Assembly. The special sitting heard welcome remarks by the Speaker and addresses by the Honourable Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition and His Excellency the President. Members of His Excellency's delegation were also in attendance at the sitting. At the conclusion of the sitting His Excellency took an official photograph with the Members of the House of Assembly and then met with children from the Bishops College Secondary School, C.W. Prescott and Anglican Primary Schools.

Following the departure of His Excellency and his delegation the children of the C.W. Prescott Primary School and Anglican Primary School had an impromptu interaction with the Speaker of the House of Assembly.



# AROUND THE

## FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL



**Mr Jaundy Martin**  
**2018-2022**

House of Assembly said goodbye to Attorney General of five years the Honourable Jaundy Martin on 25th October, 2022. Mr Martin demitted office on October 31st to join his family overseas. The Honourable Member served with distinction in the capacity of Attorney General and we wish him all the best in his new endeavours.

# PARLIAMENT

## ATTORNEY GENERAL



**Honourable Grenville T Williams**  
**November 2022 to present**

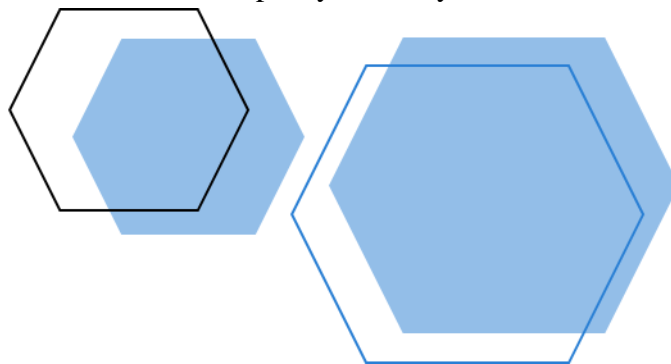
On November 4th, 2022 the Honourable Grenville Williams was sworn in as Attorney General by Her Excellency Dame Susan Dougan.

At the meeting of the House on December 5<sup>th</sup> 2022 the Honourable Member subscribed to both the Declaration of Qualification and the Oath of Allegiance. We welcome our new Attorney General and look forward to working with him.



**Honourable Senator Julian Francis,**  
**Minister of Urban Development Energy,**  
**Airports, Seaports, Grenadines Affairs,**  
**and Local Government**

In July we learnt that Senator Julian Francis, Minister of Urban Development Energy, Airports, Seaports, Grenadines Affairs, and Local Government had been afflicted by a medical condition. Members of the House and staff alike were all pleased to see Senator Francis at the special sitting on December 5<sup>th</sup> 2022. We wish Senator Francis continued speedy recovery.







SIGNING THE BOOK OF CONDOLENCE

## TRIBUTE TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, QUEEN ELIZABETH THE II

The news of the death of Queen Elizabeth II broke on September 8<sup>th</sup> 2022. A Book of Condolence was established at Government House where the Prime Minister, Speaker of the House of Assembly, Leader of the Opposition and other parliamentarians were invited to sign. Members of the House of Assembly also paid special tribute to Her Majesty the Queen on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2022.

### *Update on Temporary Parliament Building*

Work on the temporary parliament building continues apace as it nears completion which is expected in the first half of the new year. We are anxiously looking forward to moving into the new, comfortable temporary home in Calliaqua where the worry of a heavily leaking chamber (as demonstrated during the sitting of November 21<sup>st</sup> 2022), would be a thing of the past.



At the end of August, the office of the House of Assembly completed its first internship programme. Winnessa James and Gregory Hull spent 4 weeks officially on the programme (with one intern opting to spend an extra week with us). Both interns demonstrated an eagerness to learn and performed their tasks with a high degree of professionalism, while bringing youthful enthusiasm to the office environment. The staff of the House of Assembly wishes Winnessa and Gregory all the best in their future endeavours.



## ACTS

The following Bills were passed in the House during the period 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2022 to December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

- 🏴‍☠️ Port Modernisation Project (Loan Authorisation) Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Education Miscellaneous (Amendment) Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Michelle Beache Pension Decoration Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Aliens (Land Holding Regulations) (Amendment) Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Money Services Business (Amendment) Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Supplementary Appropriation Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Gemma Adams Pension (Declaration) Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Strengthening Health System Resilience Project (Loan Authorisation) Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Medical Laboratories Bill, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Electronic Communications Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Proceeds of Crime (Amendment) Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Excise Tax (Amendment) Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Customs Duties (Amendment) Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ John Renton Pension (Declaration) Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Statutes (Amendment) Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Administration of Small Estates Act, 2022
- 🏴‍☠️ Public Sector Investment Loan (No. 2) Act, 2022

## THE THIRD SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT



The 2023 Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure were laid and approved at the sitting of 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The sitting will continue on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 4 p.m. where Minister of Finance the Honourable Camillo Gonsalves is expected to introduce the Appropriation Bill for the year 2023 and deliver the Budget Address.