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# CANADA GUYANA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SIGNS MOU TO PROPEL GUYANA'S ENERGY SECTOR



▲ Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Energy NL, Charlene Johnson and Canada Guyana Chamber of Commerce Chairman, Anand Beharry signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

**Canada Guyana Chamber of Commerce (CGCC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Energy NL, which will serve as a platform to better engage business interests between the energy company and the wider Guyanese business community.**

The signing took place on the sidelines of the country's second International Energy Conference and Expo on Tuesday at the Marriott Hotel, Georgetown.

CGCC Chairman, Anand Beharry said the agreement now amplifies other engagements which were already established.

“Today is a very special day for CGCC as we formalise our relationship with Energy NL through this MOU, this agreement has been months in the making and we are finally here to make it a reality. There is extensive business participation in the Guyana market by Newfoundland companies with this agreement we hope to accelerate those engagements,” Beharry stated.

Energy NL was founded in 1977 to represent the supply and service sector of the energy industry. Today, the energy company represents over 460 member organisations worldwide which are involved in or benefit from, the energy industry of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Energy NL, Charlene Johnson shared the breakthrough transformation experience of Newfoundland and Labrador when they discovered oil and gas. She noted that it was a time when the foundation of the economy was collapsing.

The CEO said this experience is similar to Guyana's transformation, as she emphasised her commitment to sharing Energy NL's expertise and knowledge with stakeholders in Guyana.



“I am pleased on behalf of Energy NL to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding with the Canada-Guyana Chamber of Commerce, so that we can both take advantage of our shared experiences, our know-how and the desire to succeed for the mutual benefit of our membership. The opportunity here in Guyana is inspiring, I am thrilled to finally be here to see it and experience it. I look forward to helping Energy NL and our members to play a role in Guyana's success,” she noted.



Meanwhile, Energy NL members and energy sector participants have come to Guyana to share their expertise and exchange knowledge. However, more partners within the energy sector are expected to come on board through the government's innovative initiatives in the energy sector.

© DPI Guyana



# REDEFINING LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IN GUYANA: ActionINVEST Caribbean Inc. and Hemsley Fraser Canada partnership launched

By Amrita Naraine - ActionINVEST Caribbean Inc.

On Monday, ActionINVEST Caribbean Inc. (ACI) and Hemsley Fraser (HF) Canada launched their cutting-edge learning system aimed at revolutionizing the way individuals and organizations across Guyana and the Caribbean region access training and development opportunities.

The new learning system, once having completed construction, will provide users with access to a comprehensive library of courses, including a wide range of topics offered through engaging, performance-boosting, and change-enabling learning and development solutions.



According to Dr. Vishnu Doerga, Chairman of ACI, the partnership with HF Canada is one which prides itself on the growth of employees, and comprises modalities which reflect the work of ACI in corporate training and coaching, as well as the work of the Who's Who subsidiary company which illustrates dynamic companies with well-proficient management teams.

Ms. Rita Sookrit, Canada Learning Lead, HF, indicated that corporate learning has evolved tremendously from the 1990s to 2023, where learning and development engineering, and human-centric leadership are at the forefront of corporate success. She concurred that ACI is placed at a unique position to offer digital, integrative learning as executives are able to leverage skills, experience and resources with a mentor counterpart.



With the current trend towards remote and flexible learning, the new learning system will provide users with the opportunity to upskill via a self-paced method, and on their own schedule.

This includes an enterprise of custom content within ACI's education portfolio stemming from business success solutions, Quality Management Systems and Wellbeing management equipped with fluidbooks, eLearning courseware, and eBriefing videos. Ms. Rodlyn Semple, CEO of ISO Consulting, posited that the wider business community can benefit from learning about Quality Management Systems and Principles in a sector-specific context.



In developing employee agility, ACI and HF's partnership facilitates adaptable, inclusive, data-driven learning tools which challenge traditional boundaries. In this manner, users are able to access a dynamic metaportal which employs a cloud-based system, and a corporate learning and management hub.

## Canadian Federal/Provincial-Territorial Health Care Agreement

The Government of Canada recently announced a health care investment of \$196.1 billion over 10 years, including \$46.2 billion in new funding.

The funding of health care in Canada has been a point of contention for the federal and provincial and territorial governments. This debate on the adequacy of health funding is a recurring theme within the federation. The most recent negotiation of a long-term funding agreement included not only a debate on the adequacy of funding but also, whether such funding should come with strings attached and enhanced accountability.

Despite the initial political posturing, the Premiers accepted the funding and the Agreement that focused on four shared health priorities:

- expanding access to family health services, including in rural and remote areas;
- supporting health workers and reducing backlogs;
- improving access to quality mental health and substance use services; and
- modernizing the health care system with standardized health data and digital tools.

While investments are to be centered around the above priorities, jurisdictions will have flexibility in designing their action plans, including the addition of targeted results with

indicators that are tailored to their jurisdiction's needs and circumstances. Action plans with targeted results and indicators will be made available publicly by both federal and provincial and territorial governments, and provinces and territories would publicly report on results to their own residents.

In discussing the Agreement, the Federal government confirmed that that upholding the Canada Health Act (CHA) remains critical to protect Canada's publicly funded health care system and that the Government of Canada will continue to make sure provinces and territories respect the principles of the CHA by ensuring all Canadians have equitable access to medically necessary care based on their needs, not their ability to pay.

In addition, the Government will invest \$2.5 billion over 10 years to support indigenous priorities.

Collaborative work is already underway with provinces and territories to help support access to home care and long-term care. This includes existing investments of \$6 billion for home and community care and \$4 billion to improve the quality and safety of long-term

care. Included in the investment announced today is an additional \$1.7 billion over 5 years to support wage increases for personal support workers and related professions.

To access their share of the federal funding, including a guaranteed 5% growth top-up payments, for the next five years, provincial and territorial governments were required to commit to improve how health information is collected, shared, used and reported to Canadians to promote greater transparency on results, and to help manage public health emergencies.

Building on the work by federal, provincial and territorial officials over the past several years on health data and digital strategies, provinces and territories also agreed to adopt common standards and policies related to data.

Additionally, provinces and territories are being asked to streamline foreign credential recognition for internationally educated health professionals, and to advance labour mobility, starting with multi-jurisdictional credential recognition for key health professionals.



Employment and Social Development Canada:

# APPRENTICESHIP INCENTIVE GRANT FOR WOMEN



The Apprenticeship Incentive Grant for Women (AIG-W) helps you pay for expenses while you train as an apprentice in a Designated Red Seal Trade where women are underrepresented.

Application deadline: March 31, 2023

## Canadian Prime Minister Strengthens Ties With The Caribbean.

**Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, at the recently concluded CARICOM meeting in The Bahamas announced advancing support for the Haitian people amidst the crisis in their country, while also strengthening ties with the region, driving economic growth, creating good jobs, and fighting climate change.**

While in Nassau, the Prime Minister worked closely with leaders to help address the political, security, and humanitarian crisis in Haiti. He announced \$10 million in new funding to protect Haitian women and children along the Haiti-Dominican Republic border.

Canada has also committed \$12.3 million to address the food and nutrition needs of vulnerable populations, help meet the safety and emergency sexual and reproductive health needs of vulnerable women and girls, prevent and respond to gender-based violence, and provide water, sanitation and hygiene to address and prevent cholera.

Prime Minister Trudeau also announced that Canada has imposed additional sanctions against two Haitian elites who provide financial or operational support to gangs and are inflicting violence on the Haitian people. Canada will continue to provide support to bolster the capacity of the Haitian National Police to respond to the crisis, including by delivering three additional Haitian-purchased Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles. Canada announced that it will deploy two Royal Canadian Navy ships to Haiti in the coming weeks in response to Haiti's request for

assistance as violence continues to escalate in the country. As a steadfast partner of Haiti, Canada will continue to support an inclusive political dialogue in Haiti, lay the foundation for free and fair elections, and help Haitians restore peace and security in their country. During his bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of Haiti, Prime Minister Trudeau urged Prime Minister Henry to bolster political consensus around the High Transitional Council.

In Nassau, Prime Minister Trudeau also announced \$44.8 million in new initiatives to help support CARICOM in addressing the climate crisis by protecting more biodiversity, improving climate resilience and disaster preparedness. Canada will continue to advocate for small island and low-lying states in the Caribbean, who are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change like rising sea levels and extreme weather events.

The Prime Minister also announced \$1.8 million in new initiatives to help tackle escalating regional security challenges, including by targeting illicit drugs, the opioid crisis, irregular migration, and strengthening border and maritime security.



Prime Minister Trudeau also announced \$11.48 million in new initiatives, including \$2.5 million in Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) services for Indigenous people and other communities residing in the remote hinterland lacking access to quality health care and \$8.98 million to the Empowering the Next Generation: Agency and Gender Equality for Youth (ENGAGE) project to support the foundation of a more empowered and equal generation of young people in Guyana.

The Canadian Prime Minister also announced that Canada will be taking on the role of Chair of Caribbean Development Bank's (CDB) Board of Governors in June 2023 and will host the Board's Annual Meeting in Canada in 2024.

Hazel McCallion, the pint-sized "Hurricane" who ruled Mississauga, Ontario, as mayor for 12 terms and into her 94th year, has died. She was 101.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/hazel-mccallion-funeral-1.6746571>

Other  
News

Global Affairs Canada:

# CANEXPORT FUNDING APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN!

**CanExport SMEs and Innovation funding are now available to help you grow your business abroad!**

**Access funding to help cover the costs associated with expanding your business in new international markets.**



**Funding is available for projects starting after April 1, 2023**

**As CanExport SMEs and CanExport Innovation are competitive programs with limited funding, applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis until all funds are allocated.**



2023

The Government of Guyana invites you to participate in

# Guyana Investment Day

Date: March 6, 2023,

Venue: Room 203B, Metro Toronto Convention Center

Time: 2 pm

## Presentations

Minister of Natural Resources Hon. Vickram Bharrat

Minister of Home Affairs Hon. Robeson Benn

Guyana Invest Agency Head Dr. Peter Ramsaroop



Register with  
QR Code





## ‘WE WANT TO MOVE FROM PROVING RESERVES TO DEVELOPING THOSE RESERVES’-VP JAGDEO

Developing countries have the right to explore and develop their oil and gas resources, pushing against a global doctrine which is being promoted by some parts of the world.

Such policy is being pushed by the Secretary General of the United Nations and several developed countries, who believe that all oil and gas development should be restricted to existing producers only.

For context, the doctrine claims that new development of these resources would be stranded and that investing in them would not achieve net zero carbon emissions.

“Countries like Guyana and Suriname and many countries in Africa they have the right now to develop these resources...,” Vice President, Dr Bharrat Jagdeo underscored Tuesday, during his presentation on day one of Guyana’s International Energy Conference and Expo 2023, at the Marriott Hotel.

He said Guyana is at the forefront of this advocacy with credibility, as it has consistently supported a 1.5-degree target above pre-industrial levels - a global carbon

pricing policy, and the removal of fossil fuel subsidies.

This is despite being a carbon-negative country, even with 10 FPSOs operating in Guyana, the nation would still remain carbon-negative, Dr Jagdeo explained. He said the country has recently passed local content legislation, which the oil and gas company, among others, were not pleased with, but it has not resulted in shutting down operations, and the industry still thrived, along with more local businesses.

In fact, Guyana has faced challenges in renewing environmental permits and implementing a carbon tax for flaring, but it has been successful in making these changes with the support of the companies operating in the country.

The PPP/C Government is focused on developing its gas-to-energy project and ensuring that the highest standards of regulation are in place for the safety and benefit of the people.

The country’s gas-to-energy project involves the development and utilisation of natural gas resources for domestic power generation

as well as other industrial and commercial uses.

Moreover, the stable undertaking forms part of Guyana’s efforts to tap into its significant offshore natural gas reserves and maximise the benefits for the country and its people.

“We [government] want more explorations, we want us to move from proving reserves to developing those reserves, and we are working to facilitate that, not compromising in terms of safety and due diligence, but acting in a manner that is not excessively bureaucratic,” the vice president stated.

The energy policy is focused on promoting the rapid development of the local oil and gas sector, more exploration, and transforming these resources into financial resources for the country’s development, even if it means diversifying the economy.

Dr Jagdeo said it is important to see progression in a stable government with clear goals, and Guyana is determined to make changes that effectively serve its purpose.

February 14, 2023 @ DPI Guyana

## Gas-to-Energy Project set to power economic growth, energy security

**Guyana’s gas-to-energy project involves the development and utilisation of natural gas resources for domestic power generation as well as other industrial and commercial uses. The project is part of Guyana’s efforts to tap into its significant offshore natural gas reserves and maximise the benefits for the country and its people.**

It is expected to provide a reliable and cost-effective source of energy for Guyana, reducing the country’s dependence on imported fuels and contributing to economic growth.

The energy project also has the potential to create new jobs and opportunities for the people of

Guyana, particularly in the energy sector. Additionally, the use of natural gas for power generation is expected to help reduce Guyana’s carbon footprint, contributing to a cleaner environment and helping to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Overall, the gas-to-energy project has the potential to bring significant benefits to the country and its people, helping to drive economic growth, improve energy security, and enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Guyana.



### Partnership with ExxonMobil

For this transformational venture, the government has partnered with ExxonMobil, which has extensive experience in the exploration, production, and development of natural gas resources.

ExxonMobil is working with the government to develop the necessary infrastructure and facilities to transport and process the gas for use in power generation and other applications.

Government will finance the development of the plant while

ExxonMobil will develop the pipeline, which is expected to carry an estimated cost of US\$1.3 billion.

Already, the government has awarded a US\$759 million contract to LINDSAYCA/CH4 for the construction of the integrated Natural Gas Liquids (NGL) Plant and the 300-megawatt (MW) combined-cycle gas turbine (CCGT) power plant located in Wales, West Bank Demerara.

The government has decided to construct the two plants together,

as it was determined there will be substantial savings from combining the two facilities.

The partnership is expected to bring significant investment and expertise to the project, helping to ensure its success and the realisation of its full potential benefits for Guyana.

## How does the gas-to-energy project work?

This will see a 300-megawatt (MW) power plant being constructed at the old Wales Sugar Estate on the West Bank Demerara (WBD), which will generate 250 megawatts (MW) of power to approximately 220,000 households that are connected to the grid.

A 200km pipeline will transport gas from the Liza Phase One and Liza Phase Two Floating, Production, Storage, and Offloading (FPSO) vessels in the Stabroek Block to the Natural Gas power plant that is being constructed at Wales, West Bank Demerara.

The first step in the project is the extraction of natural gas from offshore fields using drilling and production facilities. The natural gas will then be processed to

remove impurities and prepare it for transportation to shore.

The processed natural gas will be transported to shore through pipelines or other transportation systems, such as liquefied natural gas (LNG) tankers.

Natural gas will be used to generate electricity at onshore power plants. The electricity generated will be distributed to the national grid and used to power homes, businesses, and other consumers.

In addition to power generation, natural gas can also be used for other purposes, such as industrial and commercial applications, transportation, and as a feedstock for the production of chemicals and other products.

The sale of natural gas and the production of electricity will generate significant revenue for Guyana, contributing to the country's economic growth and helping to support social and infrastructure development programmes.

Importantly, the project requires the investment of significant capital, as well as the development of specialised infrastructure and facilities, such as drilling and production platforms, pipelines, and power plants.

The project will also require the participation of a range of stakeholders, including government agencies, energy companies, and communities, to ensure its success.

## Benefits to the people of Guyana

The gas-to-energy project has several potential benefits for the people of Guyana:



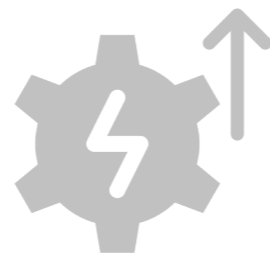
### Economic Growth

The project is expected to generate significant revenue for the country through the sale of natural gas, which will help drive economic growth and create new jobs.



### Energy Security

Guyana is currently dependent on imported fuels for its energy needs, but the Gas to Energy project will increase the country's energy independence and reduce its dependence on imports.



### Improved Electricity Access

The production of natural gas for power generation can help improve access to electricity for the people of Guyana, particularly in rural areas where access to electricity is limited.

Read More : <https://dpi.gov.gy/gas-to-energy-project-set-to-power-economic-growth-energy-security/>

# Local Content Realised Approximately US\$700M In Businesses In 2022

**The local content has realised approximately US \$700 million in businesses, which essentially translated into many job opportunities and a major spill-off effect in several other sectors.**

This is according to the Director of the Local Content Secretariat, Dr Martin Pertab who was speaking at the International Energy Conference on Wednesday.

“Based on the latest estimate, and of course, we have received the half year’s local content plan that was submitted as of June of last year, and we are in the process now of receiving the performance report, we have estimated that local content has brought in an additional US \$700 million in businesses,” Dr Pertab said.

He noted that the secretariat has managed to reduce the payment period for local companies, citing that previously, businesses were burdened by lengthy payment periods, more than 160 days in some instances.

Some of the new services the secretariat shortlisted are capable of bringing in an additional US\$150 million to US\$200 million in businesses, he asserted.

The secretariat was established during the fourth quarter of 2022, following the enactment of the Local Content Act.

It aims to ensure the prioritisation of Guyanese nationals and companies in procuring goods and services to enhance the petroleum sector and to enable local capacity development.



“We have had discussions with local contractors, sub-contractors, and made it clear that most of these companies are quite small and given the lengthy payment period, those of course, could have a significant impact on the viability of these companies,” he added.

Going forward, Pertab said this year the focus will be on strengthening the existing law, particularly on the services it

provides, noting that one of those areas is the definition of Guyanese companies. He underscored that the agency is looking to issue an additional 750 local content certificates to registered businesses, as it accelerates plans to revise the local content law this year.

“Last year, we essentially tested the depth of the water, a feel of the industry. As of last year, we have managed to register in excess of 500 local companies... as of now, I think we are somewhere around 560,” he disclosed.

Dr Pertab said now that the law essentially privatises local companies and there are more opportunities available, more local businesses are coming on board.

Over the past year, the focus has been on developing the secretariat’s institutional monitoring and administrative framework. Additionally, as part of its efforts, the Local Content Secretariat has developed a portal that lists all local companies registered with it. Through this portal, persons can access procurement, employment, and more opportunities.

Environmental Benefits: Natural gas is a cleaner source of energy compared to other fossil fuels, and the gas-to-energy project will help reduce Guyana’s carbon

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footprint and contribute to a cleaner environment.

Increased Foreign Investment: The project is expected to attract significant foreign investment in Guyana, which will help drive economic growth and create new opportunities for all Guyanese.

Some \$43.4 billion has been allocated in this year’s budget for the advancement of the gas-to-energy project.

Read More: <https://dpi.gov.gy/local-content-raked-us-700m-in-businesses-in-2022/>



The Canada Guyana Chamber of Commerce in collaboration with the Canadian High Commission to Guyana hosted a

# Business Mixer & Cocktail Reception



This networking event saw attendance from the Minister of Natural Resources Honourable Vickram Bharrat, Minister of Public Works Honourable Bishop Juan Edghill, Minister within the Ministry of Infrastructure Deodat Indar, Mr. Jake Thomas Charge d'affaires, Canadian high commission, Mr. Anand Beharry Chairman of the CGCC, CEO of Energy NL Ms. Charlene Johnson, CEO of CGCC Ms. Treina Butts and Ms. Beverly Bishop Operations Manager of Energy NL.



The Canada Guyana Chamber of Commerce in collaboration with the Canadian High Commission to Guyana hosted a business mixer and cocktail reception in honour of Canadian Partners visiting for the IECEG 2023 and Guyanese partners on Wednesday, February 15th.





Explorers-Led by Science.  
Focused on Guyana.

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JHI is a Guyana-focused deepwater exploration company whose leadership has been actively exploring offshore Guyana since 1998.

Along with our Supermajor partners ExxonMobil and Total Energies, and Guyana-based Mid-Atlantic Oil & Gas, Inc., we are working toward unlocking the exploration potential of the Canje Block.

# Digicel

Digicel is the largest mobile telecommunications provider in the Caribbean and operates in thirty-two (32) countries across the Caribbean, Central America, South America, and the South Pacific.

Launched in 2007 in Guyana, Digicel quickly acquired its share of the local market and our signal now covers 95% of the population.

Our penetration in the business community has placed us in a very strong position with major accounts being held in the Financial and Mining industries, the Diplomatic community, and Government organizations.



**Balaji Vinjimoor**  
Head of Business Solutions  
Guyana and Suriname.



**Yanet Vazquez Espinola Singh**  
Business Sales Manager

Understanding our customers' business challenges and working in partnership to solve those problems is the Digicel way.



**Candacia Phillips**  
Business Sales Manager

This has led us to expand our portfolio from just mobile services to now include ICT solutions to enable organizations to better connect and collaborate with their customers, suppliers and partners at a minimal cost.

With Digicel, our customers can focus on their business and accomplish more knowing they have the best partner of choice with them all the way.

# FOUNDING MEMBERS



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