

Delegate Biographies



Hon. Bridgid Annisette-George MP

Speaker of the House and Chairman of the Committee on Public Administration and Appropriation, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Hon. Bridgid Annisette-George first entered Parliament as a Senator and Attorney General on in November 2007 in the 9th Republican Parliament. In the 11th Republican Parliament, Mrs. Annisette-George, was elected as Speaker of the House of Representatives and is serving a second term in the designated role (12th Republican Parliament). The Speaker is also the Chairman of the Public Administration and Appropriation Committee, an entity that examines the expenditure of the Executive in accordance with the budgetary approvals as provided for by the Parliament. Speaker Annisette-George is currently serving a second term as the Vice-President of ParlAmericas which began in 2020 and represented the Caribbean, Americas and Atlantic Region on the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's (CPA) Working Group on Governance between (2017-2021). She formerly served on the CPA's International Executive Committee (2018-2020).



Mr. Esmond Forde MP

Deputy Speaker, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Mr. Esmond Forde is Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives. Before becoming a Parliamentarian in 2015, Mr. Forde held municipal office and enjoyed a career spanning international business and public relations in both the public and private sectors. Mr. Forde holds certificates in Mass Media and Communication and Advertising, and Marketing from the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine.



Mr. Davendranath Tancoo MP

Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Mr. Davendranath Tancoo is an Opposition Member who has served as Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee since November 2020. Before becoming a Parliamentarian in 2020, Mr. Tancoo served in senior advisory roles in the public sector, including as special advisor to the Prime Minister on economic, investment and financial policy from 2010 to 2015. He has also held executive positions in the private sector and carried out his private practice as an attorney at law. He holds several qualifications: a bachelor's degree in economics and history from the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, a Master of Business Administration from Anglia Ruskin University, a Bachelor of Laws from the University of London and the Legal Practice Certificate from the University of Staffordshire.

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Mr. Rushton Paray MP

Vice Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (Enterprises), Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Mr. Rushton Paray has been an Opposition Member of Parliament since 2015 and has served as Vice-Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (Enterprises) since November 2020. Mr. Paray is a trained information and communication technology (ICT) professional, having held management roles in network development, service delivery and ICT strategic planning at several companies. In addition to various professional certifications, Mr. Paray holds a Master of Business Administration in Executive Leadership and Innovation and a postgraduate diploma in business management, both from Anglia Ruskin University.



Senator Wade Mark

Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (Enterprises), Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Senator Wade Mark is an Opposition Senator who has served as Chair of the Public Accounts Committee (Enterprises) since December 2015. Senator Mark is also a member of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, which is another one of the four financial scrutiny committees of the Trinidad and Tobago Parliament. Mr. Mark first entered Parliament as an Opposition Senator in 1990. After a lengthy tenure in the Senate, including serving as its Vice-President (January – October 2001), Mr. Mark was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 10th Parliament (June 2010 to June 2015). He also previously held the portfolio of Minister of Public Administration and Information in the 5th Parliament (November 1995 – November 2000).



Senator Jearlean John

Public Accounts Committee Member, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Ms. Jearlean John is an Opposition Senator who has served as Vice-Chair of the Public Accounts Committee since November 2020. Ms. John has held executive roles at numerous large state entities including the Public Transport Service Corporation, the Housing Development Corporation and the Urban Development Corporation. She has also extensive executive experience in the private sector. Ms. John is a chartered accountant. She also holds a Master of Business Administration in Strategic Management from Heriot Watt University, as well as the Advanced Training Certificate for Chief Executives from the National University of Singapore.

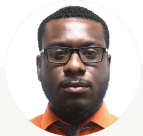
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Ms. Khisha Peterkin
Assistant Clerk, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Khisha Peterkin is an Assistant Clerk who provides procedural advice to all Members of Parliament and serves as the Secretary to the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality And Diversity and the Assistant Secretary on Oversight and Financial Scrutiny Committees (Public Accounts Committee & the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee).

She is currently the Coordinator of the National Youth Parliament. Annually Khisha and her team mentor and train on average 50 young persons from secondary schools, tertiary institutions and youth organisations throughout Trinidad and Tobago in preparation for the Parliament's Annual Youth debate. She also serves on the Parliament's Art Exhibition Selection Committee.



Darien Buckmire
Assistant Clerk, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Mr. Darien Buckmire is an Assistant Clerk at the Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. In his capacity as Assistant Clerk, he serves as the Assistant Secretary to the Parliamentary Committees that constitute Trinidad and Tobago's Parliamentary Financial Scrutiny Unit. These Committees include the Public Accounts Committee, Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee, Public Administration and Appropriations Committee and Standing Finance Committee. Seven years prior, Mr. Buckmire had previously served as the Parliamentary Research Specialist on the aforementioned Committees tasked with supporting Committee Members with independent, analytical and detail-oriented research in the areas of parliamentary financial scrutiny and budgetary oversight.



Rachel Nunes
Parliamentary Research Specialist, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Ms. Rachel Nunes is a Parliamentary Research Specialist with nine years' experience in financial scrutiny at the Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Rachel has mainly supported the work of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee and the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee. Ms. Nunes was the liaison for the workshop in collaboration with the ParlAmericas titled 'Towards a Circular Economy a Workshop for Parliamentarians and Parliamentary Staff' in April 2022.

Rachel holds a BBA from the University of the Southern Caribbean and a MSc. in Tourism Development and Management from the University of the West Indies. St. Augustine.

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Councillor Orlando Kerr

**Councillor and Assistant Secretary for Education, Research and Technology,
Tobago House of Assembly**

Mr Orlando Kerr is a dedicated individual who holds the positions of Councillor of the Tobago House of Assembly and Assistant Secretary for Education, Research and Technology in the Tobago House of Assembly (T.H.A.). A proud family man and business owner, he currently resides in the tranquil village of Delaford, Tobago, with his wife and two sons.

Serving at various levels in the Trinidad and Tobago United Teachers' Association (T&TUTA) is a hallmark period of Orlando's career. His dedication and commitment culminated in his election as the Tobago Officer of T&TUTA for two consecutive terms, from 2014 to 2017 and 2017 to 2020. During his tenure, he represented the Association at various conferences of the Caribbean Union of Teachers (C.U.T.), advocating for the rights of members of the teaching profession throughout the Caribbean.



Assemblyman Kelvon Morris

Minority Leader, Tobago House of Assembly

Assemblyman Kelvon Morris is a dedicated leader with over twenty (20) years of passionate leadership in his community. A graduate of Bishop's High School Tobago, he holds a Bachelor of Science degree with a Major in Sociology and Minor in Psychology from the University of North Georgia, Dahlonega, Georgia, USA, and a Master of Arts Degree in International Relations and World Order from the University of Leicester, Leicester, United Kingdom.

Assemblyman Morris was elected to serve the people of Black Rock/Whim/Spring Garden in the January 2021 Tobago House of Assembly Elections. During that ten-month period, he was able to implement many initiatives in his electoral district, including a Food and Clothing Bank, Sunday Meals on Wheels, District Contingency Fund, the BLAWSSUMM CAN Foundation and the Community Beautification Initiative. He was then re-elected to serve the electoral district of Darrel Spring/Whim in the December 2021 Tobago House of Assembly elections.

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Alana Nadine Henry
Clerk of the Assembly, Tobago House of Assembly

Alana Nadine Henry was born September 7th and hails from the village of Government House Road, in the island of Tobago, and is an ardent member of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies.

She has worked in various positions within the Tobago House of Assembly and Central Administrative Services , Tobago (CAST), is appointed Accounting Executive I and holds the position of acting Clerk of the Assembly, in the Assembly Legislature, Tobago House of Assembly.



Dalia Halima O'Neil
Executive Assistant to the Clerk of the Assembly, Tobago House of Assembly

Ms. Dalia O'Neil resides at Louis D'or, Land Settlement, Tobago. She is a mother of one, a seven-year-old boy. She currently works as an Executive Assistant to the Clerk of the Assembly within the Assembly Legislature for the past 6 years.

Ms. O'Neil has gained the experience of working within the Office of the Clerk over the years, by providing advice on parliamentary practices and procedures to the Members of the Assembly.

Prior to gaining employment at the Assembly Legislature, she had acquired both a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and Master's Degree in Government, from the University of the West Indies.



The Baroness Hayter of Kentish Town
Member of the House of Lords, UK Parliament

Dianne Hayter has been in the House of Lords since 2010, and has held the positions of Shadow Deputy Leader of the Lords, and Shadow Minister for Brexit, for Consumer Affairs and for the Cabinet Office. Baroness Hayter is currently a member of the European Affairs Committee and was previously Chair of the International Agreements Committee from October 2021 to July 2023. Her earlier career was in running a number of "not-for-profit" organisations, in the political and charitable spheres (Alcohol Concern, the Fabian Society, European Parliamentary Labour Party), and latterly as a Consumer representative on various Regulatory Bodies (Financial Services Consumer Panel, Legal Services Consumer Panel, National Patient Safety Agency, National Consumer Council). She is also a Labour historian (having published on 20th century Labour history), was Chair of the Labour Party and has worked in TV.

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Anthony Mangnall MP

Member of the Business and Trade Committee, House of Commons, UK Parliament

A member of the House of Commons and the Business and Trade Committee, Anthony was first elected as MP for Totnes and South Devon in 2019. The son of an officer in the Royal Green Jackets, Anthony is a former shipbroker, first in Singapore and then London; bookended by working for former Foreign Secretary, Lord Hague, first in Parliament during the coalition government and then as a senior advisor on the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative (PSVI) and closing the UK's domestic ivory market. Anthony subsequently served as a special advisor to the Secretary of State for Wales, specialising in trade policy, before being elected to Parliament. He served as a member of the International Trade Committee from 2020 to 2023, and is now a member of the Commons Business and Trade Committee.



Dame Meg Hillier MP

Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, House of Commons, UK Parliament

Meg Hillier was elected Chair of the Public Accounts Committee in 2015. First elected to Parliament in 2005, she has held the roles of junior Home Office Minister and Shadow Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change. She also served on The Speaker of the House of Commons' Digital Democracy Commission. Set up by the Speaker, the Commission investigated the opportunities digital technology can bring for parliamentary democracy in the UK and reported in January 2015. Before entering Parliament she represented Hackney, Islington and Waltham Forest on the London Assembly. A former local councillor, she was also the youngest ever Mayor of Islington in 1998/99.



The Lord Purvis of Tweed

House of Lords, UK Parliament

Lord Purvis was appointed a Liberal Democrat working peer in August 2013, taking the title Lord Purvis of Tweed. He served as Member of the Scottish Parliament for Tweeddale, Ettrick & Lauderdale from 2003-2011. When elected he was the youngest constituency Member of Scottish Parliament, and he is one of the youngest ever Life Peers. Lord Purvis is the Liberal Democrat International Trade Spokesman, a member of the House of Lords International Relations Committee, Executive Committee member of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK, and a member of the executive committee of the British Group of the Inter Parliamentary Union. He is a co-chair or office holder of a few All-Party Parliamentary Groups, including those on constitutional reform, the Global Goals, human rights, democratic participation and supporting Scottish industries such as textiles and whisky.

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Sean Kinsey

Clerk, Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, UK Parliament

Sean is currently Clerk of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee in the House of Commons. As part of the Committee's ongoing programme of work, it is running a major inquiry into UK trade policy: food and agriculture. The Committee will soon be undertaking a visit to Canada to meet parliamentary counterparts and key trade stakeholders in relation to a potential UK-Canada trade agreement. Sean previously spent two years as a Clerk on the International Trade Committee and led its inquiry on UK trade policy: transparency and scrutiny, which helped to establish the trade scrutiny mechanisms in place in the UK today. He has also spent time as Clerk of the Women and Equalities Committee and in the House of Commons Table Office.



Hon. Ron Livingston Redhead

Member, Parliament of Grenada

Ron is the Member of Parliament for St. George Northeast. He is also a social and consumer rights activist. He is currently pursuing his master's in business administration. He served as the Minister for Youth, Sports and Culture in Grenada for a period of 18 months.



Hon. Lars Jamale Pringle

Member, Parliament of Antigua and Barbuda

Hon. Lars Jamale Pringle is currently the Member of Parliament for All Saints East and St. Luke. At the 2019 National Convention, Pringle was selected as the Deputy Political Leader and in 2023 he ascended to Political Leader. Additionally, he was appointed Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee after his victories at the polls. Hon. Pringle left a career in teaching to become a successful entrepreneur and has since married the science of business with the art of politics. For many, Hon. Pringle represents the face of the next generation of leaders.



Ms. Ondell Constant

Deputy Clerk, Parliament of Antigua and Barbuda

Ondell Constant is the Deputy Clerk to Parliament in Antigua and Barbuda with 25 years of service in the public sector. She has served in middle management positions at the Ministries of Public Safety and Health and gained organisational knowledge, built leadership capacity, and assisted in the successful implementation of government policies. She attained a bachelor's degree in management studies from the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus. She has participated in various local and international trainings which have enhanced her skills and competencies. They have also aided her personal growth and development.

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Ms. Suzanne Hamblin
Procedural Officer, Parliament of Barbados

Suzanne Hamblin is the Procedural Officer to the Public Accounts Committee. She has worked at the Parliament of Barbados from 2001 starting as Accounts Clerk before transitioning to the Journal Department after two years. Since then, she has served alongside several Clerks and Deputy Clerks as Acting Procedural Officer on various Committees of Parliament: Public Accounts Committee, Joint Select Committees and Standing Committees. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science and law.



Senator John King
Member, Parliament of Barbados

Senator John King is a former entertainer/calypsonian. In May 2018, he became Minister of Creative Economy, Culture and Sports in the Mia Mottley-led Barbados Labour Party cabinet. He now serves as a Member of the Senate after opting out of elective politics. Senator King continues to contribute to the betterment of his adoptive homeland Barbados, having been born in Birmingham UK. Describing himself as a regionalist, Senator King strongly believes that service to the Caribbean in any form is a noble cause which he is committed to.



Hon. Elena Smith
Member, Parliament of Belize

Senator Elena Smith, an educator by profession, was first appointed to Parliament in 2016, as the representative for the National Trade Unions Congress and Civil Society Steering Committee in the Senate. Senator Smith was reappointed in 2020 and continues to serve in this capacity. From October 2016 to November 2017, Senator Smith was a member of the Senate Special Select Committee, which was established to inquire into and report on the findings of a special audit report prepared by the Auditor General, in relation to the Immigration and Nationality Department. Senator Smith is currently a member of the Joint Public Accounts Committee, Women's Parliamentary Caucus, and the Committee of Privileges.

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Hon. Elvia Vega Samos MP
Member, Parliament of Belize

Hon. Elvia Vega Samos was first elected to Parliament in March 2021. She is the Member for the Corozal Bay constituency in the House of Representatives. She is also the Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Development, Families and Indigenous Peoples' Affairs. Hon. Vega Samos is the Chair of the Public Service, Labour, Industry and Trade Committee, and is a Member of the Women's Parliamentary Caucus.



Mr. Eddie Webster
Clerk, Parliament of Belize

Mr. Eddie Webster became the Clerk of National Assembly in April 2010. However, before becoming the Clerk, Mr. Webster first served as Senator representing the then United Democratic Party Government, from March 2008 to mid-April 2010. Prior to his career in parliament, Mr. Webster was an educator at the Stann Creek Ecumenical College for nine years and the owner/manager of his own electrical service company.



Hon. Susan Jackson MP
Member, Parliament of Bermuda

Susan is the fourth generation Jackson to commit to public service in the Bermuda Parliament. She has been a Member of Parliament since December 2012 and is presently Shadow Minister for Transport and Shadow for Seniors. She sits on the Public Accounts Committee, Committee of Chairs and Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (Women's Board). She sat on the Joint Select Committees to review and amend sex offender legislation, financial assistance legislative review and sat on the Bermuda College Board of Governors.

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Mrs. Bethsaida Smith-Hanley
Clerk, House of Assembly of the British Virgin Islands

Mrs. Bethsaida Smith-Hanley is the newly appointed Clerk of the House of the Assembly for the Government of the Virgin Islands. Mrs. Hanley has served in the Public Service for the past 24 years as Private Secretary to a former Member of Parliament, Assistant Secretary in the Cabinet Office, and Agricultural Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles. Mrs. Hanley also served as manager of the electronic platform in the Cabinet Office, currently being used by cabinet members, and has a keen interest in seeking to modernise the processes and procedures of the House of Assembly of the Virgin Islands.



Hon. Marlon A. Penn MHA
Member, House of Assembly of the British Virgin Islands

Marlon A. Penn represents the 8th Electoral District in the Virgin Islands Parliament. He was first elected in 2011 and is currently serving his 4th consecutive term. He has served as Junior Minister for the Economy, Minister for Health and Leader of The Opposition throughout his parliamentary career. He is a Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee and Shadow Minister for Finance.



Hon. Ronnie W. Skelton MHA
Leader of the Opposition, House of Assembly of the British Virgin Islands

Hon. Ronnie is a Territorial Member of the National Democratic Party and has been Leader of the Opposition in the British Virgin Islands (BVI) since 2022. He was first elected in 1999. Previous political roles include Minister for Health and Social Development (2011 – 2019) and Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Finance, Health and Social Development (2003 – 2007). He was the chief executive for Skelton Group of Companies (2007 – 2011). His background is in engineering, having obtained a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. His recreations include music, basketball, volleyball and softball. Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) engagements attended include: BVI Branch Annual Parliamentary Visit–Africa, June 2001; 46th CPA Conference and 20th Conference for Small Countries–London, September 2000; 45th CPA Conference and 19th CPA Conference for Small Countries–Trinidad and Tobago, September 1999.



Hon. Melvin Mitchell Turnbull
Member, House of Assembly of the British Virgin Islands

Hon. Melvin Mitchell Turnbull is the representative for the Second District in the British Virgin Islands (BVI) and has been since June 2015. His professional background is in financial management. He is a graduate from Florida Memorial College and obtained a bachelor's degree in business administration management (Hons) in May 2002. His affiliations centre around youth engagement and mentoring. He holds the role of Certified Regional Master Trainer for BVI in BOSS, the Movement International Youth Training Program. He is the former Chairman of Virgin Islands Cadet Corps and is Vice President of Hope Foundation (BVI) Ltd. He is the Director of Project Lion Heart Mentorship Program and former Lead Assessor of Virgin Islands Youth Court. His recreation is fishing.

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Hon. Stacy Mather

Deputy Speaker, House of Assembly of the British Virgin Islands

Stacy “Buddha” Mather has lived his life inspiring and serving the youth of the Virgin Islands. He entered the public-school system as a trainee teacher in 1994. To advance his professional training, he left to obtain an undergraduate and graduate degree in Education. In 2003, he was commissioned part-time to design a pilot programme for youth, now known as the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP). YEP has become known as one of the most successful youth programmes in the territory. Hon. Mather was elected in April 2023 and is now the Deputy Speaker and a member of His Majesty’s Opposition.



Dr. Clarice Modeste-Curwen. MP

Deputy Speaker, Parliament of Grenada

Dr. Clarice is a qualified teacher and medical doctor. She was elected as Member of Parliament (MP) for the constituency of St. Mark in 1999. She has been an MP for the past 24 years, during which she has been consistently re-elected. She has held several portfolios over the years: Minister for Health and Social Security, Tourism, Civil Aviation, Culture and the Performing Arts, Communications and Works, and Foreign Affairs. In her last portfolio as Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Climate Change and the Environment was added. Her interest is in the training of women to become leaders and politicians. The issue of climate change is also of special importance to her.



Hon. Ron Livingston Redhead

Member, Parliament of Grenada

Ron is the Member of Parliament for St. George Northeast. He is also a social and consumer rights activist. He is currently pursuing his master’s in business administration. He served as the Minister for Youth, Sports and Culture in Grenada for a period of 18 months.



Mrs. Raquel G. H. Morgan

Secretary, Parliament of Grenada

Raquel is a Committee Clerk in the Parliament of Grenada. She is a qualified secretary with over 20 years of varied administrative work experience and proven ability to handle and manage the office environment. She possesses effective organisational skills and willingness to perform other related duties that would help to enhance the achievement of the mission of the Houses of Parliament of Grenada. She exhibits a high standard of human relational skills and professionalism on the job. She is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. She produces reports and minutes for Committees of the Houses of Parliament.

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Hon. Julian J. Robinson MP
Member, Parliament of Jamaica

Julian is Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee and Shadow Minister for Finance. He was first elected to Parliament in 2011 and is serving his third term. From 2012 to 2016 he served as Minister of State in the Ministry of Science, Technology, Energy and Mining. He served as General Secretary of the People's National Party from 2012 to 2016 and as a Member of the Electoral Commission of Jamaica.



Kavan Gayle
Senator, Parliament of Jamaica

Kavan Gayle is a Government Senator and trade unionist and since November 2007 has been the President General of the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union – one of the largest trade unions in Jamaica. He was appointed to the Senate in 2012. Acknowledged in the labor sector with over three decades of experience, he has demonstrated and displayed skills as a parliamentarian to enact and review critical legislations. Kavan Gayle currently serves on the regional executive committees of Union Network International and the International Transport Federation, which are two large global trade unions as well as a board of director of national public bodies.



Mrs. Rosemarie Douglas-Beckford
Senior Clerk, Parliament of Jamaica

Rosemarie is a Senior Committee Clerk with over 22 years of experience in the legislative arm of government and has worked directly with the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) since 2005. She is a graduate of the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica where she majored in international relations. She also possesses advanced international certification in French. She has received extensive training in parliamentary practices and procedures, the most recent being the Advanced Parliamentary Theory and Practice Course at King's College London. She has also been a presenter at Commonwealth Parliamentary Association workshops/conferences in the past such as the Westminster Workshop on Public Financial Oversight (October 2020) and the PAC Workshop for Clerks and Public Officials (December 2022).

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Mrs. Helah Adina Lee
Commission Analyst, Legislative Assembly of Montserrat

Mrs. Helah Adina Lee has been working for the Government of Montserrat as a Commission Analyst in the Department of Legislature for three years. Mrs. Lee possesses a postgraduate diploma in human resource management from the University of Salford as well as a bachelor's degree in management from the University of the West Indies. She has served on numerous committees, including the Public Accounts Committee, and has many years of expertise in this capacity.



Hon. Paul Lewis
Leader of the Opposition, Legislative Assembly of Montserrat

Paul Lewis, a stalwart in Montserratian politics, served as the Leader of the Opposition for the past four years, offering a robust counterbalance. His extensive tenure as the Minister of Communications Works Labour and Energy from 2014 to 2019 showcased his commitment to public service. Prior to his political career, Lewis demonstrated leadership as the President of the Montserrat Civil Service Union for 11 years. Beyond politics, he is an accomplished electrical engineer, contributing to his nation's development. Lewis' artistic side shines through his passion for songwriting, while his appreciation for sports and culture reflects a well-rounded personality dedicated to both civic duty and cultural expression.



Mrs. Esmalene Cox-Jn Louis
Deputy Clerk, Parliament of St. Lucia

Mrs. Esmalene Cox-Jn Louis has been with the Parliament of St. Lucia from 2015. She entered the Parliament in 2015 as the Deputy Clerk of Parliament and was confirmed as Clerk of Parliament in 2023. She serves as the Secretary to the Public Accounts Committee and is the Human Resource Officer of the Parliament. Mrs. Cox-Jn Louis holds a bachelor's degree in management studies and a master's degree in human resource.



Hon. Allen Michael Chastanet MP
Leader of the Opposition, Parliament of St. Lucia

Hon. Allen Michael Chastanet was elected as the Parliamentary Representative for Micoud South and Leader of Opposition in July 2021. Prior to that he was elected as the Parliamentary Representative for Micoud South and the Prime Minister of Saint Lucia in June 2016 until July 2021. He also served as Minister for Finance, Economic Growth, Job Creation, External Affairs and the Public Service. Allen Chastanet holds a bachelor's degree in economics with a minor in political science as well as a master's degree in development banking from Bishop's University in Quebec and American University in Washington D.C. respectively.

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Ms Nita Louis

Senior Administrative Secretary, Parliament of St. Lucia

Ms. Nita Louis joined the Parliament in 2017 in the capacity of Secretary/Hansard Reporter. In 2021 she was promoted to the post of Senior Administrative Secretary. Her duties as Senior Administrative Secretary include performing the tasks of procedural clerk/clerk-at-the-table and secretary to the President of the Senate, along with assisting the Clerk and Deputy Clerk of Parliament with the Office's administrative matters. She also serves as the officer with responsibility for external affairs. Ms. Louis has officially and unofficially acted in the post of Deputy Clerk of Parliament. Ms. Louis holds a bachelor's degree in youth development work from the University of the West Indies and an associate degree in business administration from Sir Arthur Lewis Community College. She is currently pursuing a Master of Business Administration in General Management from the Guglielmo University.



Dr. the Hon. Godwin Friday MP

Member, House of Assembly of St Vincent and Grenadines

Dr. The Hon. Godwin was born in Bequia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. He obtained a Doctor of Philosophy in political studies and a Bachelor of Laws from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. He practiced law in Ontario, Canada as counsel in the Department of Justice from 1995 to 2000. From 2002 he practiced law as a sole practitioner in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. He was first elected to Parliament in St. Vincent and the Grenadines in 2001 as Member for Northern Grenadines and has been re-elected four times, most recently in 2020. He became the Leader of the Opposition and President of the New Democratic Party in November 2016 and continues to hold these positions.



Hon. Curtis M. King MP

Member, House of Assembly of St Vincent and Grenadines

Hon. Curtis M. King assumed the role of Minister of Education and National Reconciliation in December 2020, continuing a career in education spanning over three decades. He received his early education at the Belair Government School, the St. Vincent Grammar School, the St. Vincent Teachers Training College and the Commonwealth Caribbean Youth Centre in Georgetown, Guyana. Minister King holds a bachelor's degree in history from the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus and a postgraduate diploma in educational management and leadership from the University of Technology of Jamaica. He is a former Headmaster of the St. Vincent Grammar School.



Mrs. Simone Williams-Huggins

Deputy Clerk, House of Assembly of St Vincent and Grenadines

Simone has been working at the House of Assembly Department in St. Vincent and Grenadines for approximately 22 years. She is the Deputy Clerk. She briefly transferred for one year and returned to the Department in July 2023.

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Hon. Warren Kwame Eusi Mc Coy MP

Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister with responsibility for Information and Public Affairs, Parliament of Guyana

Honorable Warren Kwame Eusi Mc Coy is a member of the 12th Parliament and Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister in Guyana, appointed in August 2020. He is responsible for Information and Public Affairs and brings over two decades of experience in media, strategic communication, and executive administration.

Mc Coy has a background in broadcast journalism and has served in various communication roles, including as Communication Coordinator/Press Liaison within the Office of the President. His notable achievements include founding the National Youth Parliament, contributing to the strengthening of regional communication for the integration movement through a CARICOM Youth Ambassadorship, and establishing the Caribbean's first National Media and Communication Academy.

Minister McCoy holds a Master of Political Marketing and is certified in media ethics, journalism, and crisis communication. Currently, he focuses on consolidating and modernizing state media, expanding government communication and global sector partnerships, and fostering citizen-government connections through strategic communication and grass-roots community engagement strategies.



Mr. Jermaine Figueira MP

Member, Parliament of Guyana



Savitah D'Andrade

Parliament of Guyana

Speaker Biographies



Senator the Hon. Nigel de Freitas

President of the Senate, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Senator the Hon. Nigel de Freitas was first appointed a Government Senator and served as Vice-President of the Senate in the 11th and 12th Republican Parliament until March 2022 when he was appointed Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries. Senator de Freitas is an aquatic specialist with over 16 years' experience specialising in aquatic ecosystem management. He holds a bachelor's degree in marine and freshwater biology and a master's degree in aquaculture from the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. He is also certified with the Canadian Certifications Approvals Board as an EPT for Water Quality Assessment and Fisheries Management, a member of the World Aquaculture Society and American Fisheries Association. Mr. Nigel de Freitas was elected President of the Senate in January 2023.



Senator the Hon. Paula Gopee-Scoon

Minister of Trade and Industry, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Mrs. Paula Gopee-Scoon was appointed a Senator and Minister of Trade and Industry in September 2015. Previously, she represented the constituents of Point Fortin following the General Election of May 2010. She was first elected in November of 2007; at which time she was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs. Mrs. Gopee-Scoon is a graduate of the University of the West Indies, having obtained a bachelor's degree in public administration and law. She went on to pursue her studies in law at the University of London and possesses a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) in labour and public international law. In addition, she obtained a Master of Business Administration from Anglia Ruskin University in leadership, entrepreneurship and innovation. Although her academic qualifications are in the legal field, Mrs. Gopee-Scoon's career also includes experience in the financial sector, having held various managerial positions in banks throughout Trinidad from 1982 to 1996. An avid art collector, Mrs. Gopee-Scoon is a mother of three.



Senator Dr. Paul Richards

Independent Senator, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Dr. Paul Richards was first appointed an Independent Senator in September 2015, at the start of the 11th Republican Parliament. In August 2020, he was re-appointed as an Independent Senator in the 12th Republican Parliament. Dr. Richards is also a multimedia, communications professional and educator. Dr. Richards has 35 years' experience in radio and television broadcasting, management, and production. Over the years, his duties included being a television anchor, producer and senior manager of news and current affairs programmes. Dr. Richards also sees education as a critical tool for individual, community and national development. From an educational standpoint, Dr. Richards lectures at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels in the fields of Communications, Psychology, Sociology, & Educational Psychology and Management. Dr. Richards' vision includes using media for the empowerment, growth and development of young people.

Speaker Biographies



Senator Anthony Vieira

Independent Senator, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Anthony Vieira is an Independent Senator in Trinidad and Tobago. He has been an attorney-at-law with over 30 years of experience in civil, industrial, family, and criminal law. He has served on numerous committees and held various appointments, including legal consultant to the Minister of Education, member of the Telecommunications Bill 2000 Review Committee, and member of the Code of Ethics Grievance Committee of the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce. Vieira has also worked extensively in intellectual property protection, serving as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee and the Ministerial Committee on the National Intellectual Property Policy.



Senator Sunity Maharaj

Independent Senator, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago, and former Editor of the Trinidad Express Newspaper

Sunity Maharaj is an Independent Senator in the Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Ms Maharaj is a career journalist and multi-media professional of over 45 years' experience. She has worked in print and broadcast media, headed journalist organisations, and developed and implemented training programmes for journalists. She currently runs her own multi-media production company and works as an independent media and communications consultant. She was appointed as a Senator in September 2023 and serves as Chairman of the Joint Select Committee on Local Authorities, Service Commissions and Statutory Authorities (including the Tobago House of Assembly) and is a member of the Joint Select Committee on Local Authorities, Service Commissions and Statutory Authorities (including the Tobago House of Assembly).



Brian Bernard Caesar

Clerk of the House, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Brian Bernard Caesar currently serves as the Clerk of the House and Head of Parliament. Brian's parliamentary career includes serving as Marshal of the Parliament during the period 2004-2015 and periods of acting appointments as Clerk of the House/Head Office of the Parliament in 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022. He also served as Clerk of the Senate. His qualifications include: a master's degree in business from the Anglia Ruskin University; postgraduate diploma in leadership development, Canada School of Public Service; master's degree in administration (Executive) at the University of the West Indies (UWI), St Augustine Campus; diploma in procurement and contract management from UWI; bachelor's degree in management from the University of Lincoln.

Speaker Biographies



Ms. Keiba Jacob-Mottley

Acting Clerk of the Senate, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Keiba Jacob-Mottley is the Acting Clerk of the Senate and Head of the Financial Scrutiny Unit (FSU) at the Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. She provides procedural and research support to Members of Parliament on parliamentary practice and procedure as well as the scrutiny of public administration and expenditure. As the Head of the FSU, Ms. Jacob has led a team of professionals through the transformation of Parliamentary Financial Scrutiny in Trinidad and Tobago. She is also an active member of the cultural and creative sector, serving as President of the Art Society of Trinidad and Tobago, and spearheading the development of the Parliament's Art Collection, Rotunda Gallery and Parliamentary Museum. Ms. Jacob-Mottley holds a Master of Business Administration from the Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business, University of the West Indies, in addition to various professional certifications in areas including risk management and project management.



Mr. Jason Elcock

Corporate Communications Manager, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

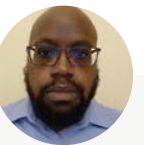
Mr. Jason Elcock is the Corporate Communications Manager of the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago. In this capacity, he is responsible for the dissemination of accurate information to the public and media about the work of Parliament. He was part of the team that worked to launch Trinidad and Tobago's Parliament Channel in 2006. Mr. Elcock obtained a bachelor's degree from the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine and a master's from the University of Leicester. He enjoys playing basketball and listening to music.



Mr. Julien Ogilvie

Deputy Clerk of the Senate, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Mr. Julien Ogilvie has been serving in the Secretariat of the Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the past 15 years. He currently serves as Deputy Clerk and Team Lead for the Departmental Joint Select Committees Unit. Mr. Ogilvie obtained a bachelor's degree in public sector management from the University of the West Indies (St. Augustine) in 2008 and a Master of Business Administration (with a focus on leadership) in 2018. He also holds qualifications in project management and law.



Mr. Justin Jarrette

Senior Parliamentary Research Specialist, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Mr. Justin Jarrette is a Senior Parliamentary Research Specialist at the Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. He has supported the work of the Public Accounts Committee, as well as Joint Select Committees on Human Rights, Foreign Affairs and constitutional reform. He also serves as Programme Officer for the Secretariat of the Commonwealth Association of Public Accounts Committees, managed by Trinidad and Tobago for the period 2023-2026. Mr. Jarrette holds a bachelor's degree in French from the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, a master's in history from the Université Bordeaux Montaigne (France), a diploma in law and economics from the Université Toulouse Capitole (France), and a postgraduate certificate in international trade and commercial law from the University of Essex. In addition, he holds professional development certificates in public policy analysis, development studies and business administration from the London School of Economics.

Speaker Biographies



Ms. Jaiwantie Ramdass
Auditor General, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Ms. Jaiwantie Ramdass joined the Auditor General's Department in 1994. She has held key leadership positions in the Auditor General's Department for over twenty-five years and has extensive experience in financial, value for money and information technology auditing.

In 2019, Ms. Ramdass was appointed Deputy Auditor General with responsibility for a number of units including financial management, procurement, information technology, human resources, administrative services, internal audit and pensions and exchequer management. Ms. Ramdass is a fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA). She is a Certified Information System Auditor (CISA) and a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). Ms. Ramdass is also a holder of a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Heriot-Watt University, United Kingdom.



Marlene Johnson
Gender and Development Advocate

A dedicated Gender Equality advocate, Marlene Johnson has worked with multinational development financial institutions. She was instrumental in the establishment of the Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers and the national umbrella organization. She has designed and implemented training in 'Gender Analysis', 'Mainstreaming Gender' and 'Gender Equality in the Project Cycle'. At the Caribbean Development Bank, she co-authored with the School of Education, University of the West Indies, a curriculum on 'Gender Socialization for Early Childhood Education Practitioners' and a complementary 'Training Kit' for certificate, undergraduate and graduate levels. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Gender and Development studies.



Deborah Hoyte
Export Advisor, exporTT

Ms. Hoyte boasts extensive experience, having served as a consultant, trainer, and mentor for businesses prior to joining exporTT in 2013. Within exporTT, her proficiency has propelled her from administrative roles to board-level contributions. As a certified International Trade Specialist, her purview now encompasses a diverse range of sectors in the Creative industry, including fashion, film, music, and animation. She is equally engaged in the cocoa and chocolate industries, actively participating in their expansion. Ms. Hoyte has been instrumental in the SheTrades initiative since its inception in Trinidad and Tobago, and presently leads its advancement at exporTT. She is accredited by the International Trade Centre to conduct Export Readiness Workshops, advocating strongly for female empowerment through education and opportunities.