



Cayman Islands **Chamber of Commerce**

Economic Forum 2018





Mr. Paul Byles

President, Cayman Islands
Chamber of Commerce





Advocacy Agenda & Action Plan 2018-2021



About the plan

- Adopted by the Council in late 2017 after consultation with the membership
- Stresses collaboration and partnerships with key stakeholders
- Addresses the Chamber's strategic vision to be the **catalyst** for **positive change**, connecting **community, business, and government**.
- Four areas of focus
 - Education, Employment & Workforce Development
 - Economic Growth and Diversification
 - Regulatory Efficiencies
 - Community Development



Advocacy Agenda and Action Plan 2018-2021 Progress Update



Education

- Strengthened relationships with CIFEC, UCCI, ICCI and public schools
- Matched students with mentors in the public and private sectors
- Reintroduced the Golden Apple Awards to recognise teaching excellence
- Present achievement awards to students at upcoming graduation events
- Connected students with employers through the annual Careers Expo
- Conducted fact-finding visits to public and private sector schools
- Consulted with educators about schools needs and curriculum





Advocacy Agenda and Action Plan 2018-2021 Progress Update



Employment

- Developing a summer youth work experience programme to be launched in July
- Working with CIFEC to develop vocational and technical resource guide
- Met with Cayman Contractors Association to develop a VTECH programme to increase the number of Caymanians entering these vocational and technical fields





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Workforce Development

- Expanded the offerings of the Chamber's Professional Development and Training Centre; Held 56 courses in 2017 with 637 persons benefitting
- Working with members to identify new training initiatives





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Economic Growth and Diversification

- Partnered with Ministry of Economic Development to host this economic forum
- Meeting quarterly with Caucus and Ministry of Commerce
- Established a working committee to create the Chamber's Small Business Centre





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Economic Growth and Diversification

- Hosting industry forums and roundtables for financial services, tourism and construction sectors
- Joined the Government delegation in Hong Kong for the Great Festival of Innovation
- Established a relationship with the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce to facilitate the development of business and education exchange programmes





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Regulatory Efficiencies

- Established a working committee to simplify immigration categories
- Met with the Ministry of Human Resources representatives to discuss the development of the new Work Permit & Residency initiative (WORC)
- Serving on several consultative committees
- Working with Ministry of Commerce and Cayman Islands Small Business Association to develop a national SME policy
- Held regular meetings with government officials to share concerns about planning issues





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Community Development

- Partnering with the Royal Cayman Islands Police to introduce a Gun Amnesty initiative for June
- Organised the largest annual clean-up for Earth Day with more than 2,000 volunteers
- Established a committee to develop beautification and anti-littering initiatives
- Establishing dialogue with industry associations
- Developing a public awareness anti-littering campaign

