



2019
Year In Review

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

HON. DESMOND MCKENZIE, CD, MP, JP
Minister of Local Government and Community Development



One of my great passions as a creature of Local Government, and as the Minister responsible for its stewardship, is the practical promotion of this form of Government as a foundation of national life. While Local Government provides a whole spectrum of services that touch Jamaicans from the cradle to the grave, there is still more to be done to

make its importance top of mind to the average citizen. It is precisely for this reason that I am especially pleased with the work of the Trelawny Municipal Corporation. The Corporation has raised the bar of service to the people of the parish, and to those who work in it and who visit it on a daily basis, in keeping with its Trelawny Local Sustainable Development Plan 2018.

This Municipal Corporation has over the last three years, but especially over the year in review, made impressive and critical steps in managing the changing profile of the parish capital, Falmouth, and the remainder of the parish. Traditionally, the development curve facilitated by the Tourism services sector along the north-west corridor of Jamaica was dramatically less evident in Trelawny, even though it sits between St. Ann and St. James, the two powerhouses of the industry with the most extensive outlay of tourism services and infrastructure.

Happily, this deficit, through strong Municipal leadership and collaboration with a range of stakeholders including my Ministry and central Government, is being reversed. Trelawny has become alive again. The critical cruise shipping sector is being facilitated in an orderly way by the work of the Corporation, to the benefit of all interests. Hotels and attractions are emerging at an impressive rate. In the period under review, US\$110 million was invested in one hotel, creating over 1,500 jobs. At the same time, US\$250 million is being invested in another hotel development, which will significantly expand the parish's hotel room capacity and employment opportunities.

In the midst of the diversification of the economy of the parish, the Corporation has continued to properly encourage the agricultural and goods-producing sectors, along with the services sector. Trelawny is the

prime example of a parish that is striving to create an equitable space for the emerging and traditional sectors, in which people see a viable present and future for themselves. In this way, the pace of rural to urban drift within and from the parish, while still an issue still being addressed, is being reduced.

This is a great period in the history of Trelawny. I cannot sufficiently praise the municipal authorities of this parish, led by His Worship the Mayor of Falmouth Colin Gager, for its commitment and sheer hard work. The role and profile of Local Government, as a primary contributor to national development, have been elevated through your efforts, and I am proud to be your Minister.

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MESSAGES *from:*

**His Worship The Mayor - Falmouth
COUNCILLOR C. JUNIOR GAGER**



“Committed to You; Committed to the Future” is the motto of the Trelawny Municipal Corporation, and this is what drives us in this organization; our commitment to the citizenry of this parish.

2019 was a challenging year for us at the Trelawny Municipal Corporation, however, as challenging as it was, it was quite rewarding too. Here at the Corporation, we pride ourselves as being trendsetters, as we strive to live up to our mandate.

This newsletter seeks to highlight a few of the activities undertaken in 2019.

In keeping with our mission, we are intent on making the Trelawny Municipal Corporation a viable entity, providing good service to customers, effectively enforcing local government laws and protecting the environment. With this in mind we have embarked on the following projects:-

- Traffic management improvement within the town and parking enforcement
- The hosting of community forums giving citizens the opportunity to express their views on issues affecting them, assist in finding solutions; and sensitizing them about the roles and functions of the Municipal Corporation
- Regularization of vendors at the markets
- More aggressive Property Tax Promotion and collection
- Rehabilitation of roads

The year 2020 sees the parish of Trelawny celebrating 250 years, under the theme “Celebrating the Past; Igniting the Future” and we will continue to engage the citizens and stakeholders in this venture.

We remain committed at all times to the Parish.

**CEO- Trelawny Municipal Corporation
ANDREW HARRISON**



The Trelawny Municipal Corporation continually strives to be the premier local regulatory entity. It is also our mission to provide effective local governance and enhance the development of the parish by providing efficient services and implementing practical policies. With this being at the forefront of the organization, we at the corporation work cohesively to make the dream a reality.

Trelawny Municipal Corporation continues to leave footprints in the sand, by which other Municipalities find guidance and direction and we continue to stand out as a Corporation. In April 2019, our Debate team won the inaugural Public Sector Debate Competition, having defeated ‘top’ Ministries and agencies throughout the rounds. This was a significant feat.

The Trelawny Local Sustainable Development Plan is a tool to guide the Local Authority to manage the orderly growth and development of the parish, by identifying areas of improvements and opportunities, and the strategies to achieve the goals and objectives of the parish. At the Municipal Corporation, we continue to work feverishly to have this plan implemented and manifested as designed.

2019 has been an eventful year, and as we look back, we analyze our weaknesses and capitalize on our strengths to make the Parish a better place for all.

With all our stakeholders and immediate staff working together, the Trelawny Municipal Corporation will soar to higher heights. We forever remain... “Committed to You; Committed to the Future.”



TRELAWNY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION Wins Inaugural Public Sector Debate Competition

The Trelawny Municipal Corporation won the inaugural Public Sector Debate Competition at the grand finals of the contest which was held on April 25 at the Jamaica Conference Centre, downtown Kingston. The competition, which lasted six weeks, was organized by the Transformation Implementation Unit (TIU) in the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service and the Jamaican Association for Debate and Empowerment (JADE).

A total of 20 teams from various ministries, departments and agencies matched wits in five rounds of matches, with the Trelawny Municipal Corporation defeating the Ministry of National Security to take the coveted title.



Team Captain leads discussion in preparation of rebuttal

Shakera Williams, Team Captain, was chosen the best speaker throughout the competition and the team received the 'Best Team Outside of Kingston' prize. They walked away with the grand prize of \$100,000; a weekend vacation for two at a resort (each); sip and paint passes; the winner's trophy and an additional \$75,000 from the Jamaica Civil Service Association (JCSA).

Meanwhile, Executive Director of the TIU, Maria Thompson Walters, congratulated the Trelawny Municipal Corporation and all the other participating teams.

"The Trelawny Municipal Corporation really surprised us. They were consistent throughout the debate and they did well in all their matches," Ms. Thompson Walters said.



Mayor of Falmouth, C. Junior Gager (centre) poses with championship trophy. R-L Marlet Wellington, Ricardo Williams, Shakera Williams (main speakers) L-R Tamicka Malcolm, Garcia McLean (reserves)

EARTHQUAKE AWARENESS EXPO Highlights



Students from South Trelawny participated in an Earthquake Awareness Expo staged in Albert Town. The main feature for day's activities was a Poetry Competition about Earthquake Awareness. There were also displays from agencies who are part of the Parish Disaster Committee



BOUNTY HALL PRIMARY

Benefits From Labour Day Activities

May 2019 saw a number of Labour Day activities being undertaken across Trelawny, with the Parish project being carried out at the Bounty Hall Primary School. The theme for Labour Day 2019 was “Child Safety... It’s You, It’s Me, It’s All a Wi”.

In this effort, the Trelawny Municipal Corporation, along with volunteers from Victoria Mutual Building Society, Jamaica Defense Force, National Youth Service, Heart Trust NTA and other Community Based Organizations went to work on the school grounds and zone.

The project included, but was not limited to painting the front of the school, erecting an entrance gate, constructing two speed bumps, erecting a base for the perimeter fence, as well as cleaning the compound. VMBS also came on board and part sponsored the day’s activities.

The initiative was well received by the school and wider community who were especially pleased for the speed bumps which would now force motorists to reduce their speed in the school zone.



GRADE 4 STUDENTS VISIT THE TMC

As part of their curriculum, Grade 4 students across the Parish visited the TMC to learn about the roles and functions of the Municipality



Town Washing Activity IN FALMOUTH

JN BANK
FALMOUTH
donates to
DISASTER UNIT



Well needed supplies and tools were donated to the Parish Disaster Unit by JN Bank, in preparation for the Hurricane Season



TRELAWNY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION *Celebrates PARISH HEROES*



led by Chairman, His Worship the Mayor of Falmouth-Councillor C. Junior Gager, the Trelawny Municipal Corporation hosted Heroes' Day activities under the theme for Heritage Week, being "Our Heritage... A Great Legacy".

His Worship, along with the staff of the Corporation celebrated and sought to promote our heritage and highlight our heroes.

The Heroes' Day Civic and Awards Ceremony was quite grand, as a total of twenty-five (25) well deserving men and women received awards at the Ceremony, held in Albert Town. The awards were given in the categories of: Parish Awards, Mayor's Award and Special Awards.

Among the Special Awardees were persons from the Diaspora who still continue to promote and give back to the parish of Trelawny, as well as a local shoemaker and cemetery keeper. This category was designed to highlight the unsung heroes of our Parish.

The Trelawny Municipal continues to live up to its mantra: "Committed to You: Committed to the Future".

PERMANENT SECRETARIES *from Trinidad & Tobago pay courtesy call on* MAYOR OF FALMOUTH



LOCAL GOVERNMENT RUN

The month of November is celebrated annually as Local Government Month, and the theme for 2019 was “Building Resilient Communities through Local Government”. The month of activities began with the Local Government Run on the 30th of October, where runners from Trelawny ran and collected messages from the runners in St. James.



On Thursday, October 31, the batons with messages were handed over to the runners in St. Ann at the Bengal Bridge. The run was spearheaded by the Trelawny Municipal Corporation and the Social Development Commission.

YOUTH MAYOR

Ramona Hastings of William Knibb Memorial High School emerged as Youth Mayor 2019-2020 at the selection exercise held on November, 2019. Students from high schools across the Parish participated in this exercise which was geared to test and improve the students' knowledge of Local Governance.

The participating students went through a pre-judging exercise prior to the competition which tested their knowledge of Local Governance, current affairs and communication skills.

On the day of the competition, students made oratorical presentations surrounding the theme for Local Government Month, “Building Resilient Communities through Local Governance”. These presentations were judged, and coupled with the scores from the pre-judging exercise, William Knibb's Ramona Hastings was declared Youth Mayor, with Tianna Huie of Westwood High awarded Youth Deputy Mayor.



INTERAGENCY QUIZ COMPETITION

Six stakeholder groups participated in the inaugural Interagency Quiz Competition, organized by Community Programmes Coordinator, Shakera Williams. The participating agencies included: Social Development Commission, Jamaica Cultural Development Commission, Trelawny Health Services, Jamaica Constabulary Force, Jamaica Fire Brigade and Rural Agricultural Development Authority. The competition which lasted for three weeks saw exciting matches and friendly rivalry among participating teams.

The questions came from the categories of: Local Government, Parish History, Disaster Management and Current Affairs. At the end of the competition series, the Jamaica Constabulary Force emerged the winner, defeating the valiant Social Development Commission.



SPORTS DAY

The social and physical capabilities of the staff came to life at the inaugural Sports Day, held on November 29, 2019 at the Elleston Wakeland Centre. This proved to be a most exciting day, as all categories of staff gathered to support their respective houses, namely: Earle (yellow), Graham (purple) and Ramdatt (blue). Preceding the day of activities, was a Cross Country Run, which saw Graham House emerging on top, however, they were later overtaken by Earle House who would have held on to the victory to the end.

All categories of staff participated and revelled in excitement as they cheered for their respective houses.



TREE LIGHTING HIGHLIGHTS



MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS TREAT & TOUR

His Worship the Mayor of Falmouth, once again hosted the Mayor's Christmas Treat at the Trelawny Municipal Corporation on Wednesday, December 11, 2019. This is an annual venture where residents of North Trelawny are feted and fed. The day also saw great entertainment by Errol the Entertainer.

The residents were also given supermarket vouchers, aimed at making their Christmas a little brighter.



On the 16, His Worship and councillors of South Trelawny, along with other staff journeyed to the hills of South Trelawny to spread the cheer and joy to the children in the Divisions of Ulster Spring, Lorrimers and Troy. The children were entertained by the staff masquerading as cartoon characters and they also got their faces painted and received gifts from Santa.





DROP IN CENTRE



The homeless people who now roam the streets of Trelawny aimlessly will soon be beneficiaries of services that will be provided at the almost complete drop-in centre in Falmouth. The facility is being constructed by the Ministry of Local Government at a cost of \$16 million.

The drop-in centre will be furnished to create a more comfortable environment for the indigent. They will provide warm meals for homeless people, a place for them to shower and a change of clothes, as well as a place for them to rest, temporarily.

An upbeat Falmouth Mayor and Chairman of the Trelawny Municipal Corporation, Councillor C. Junior Gager, said construction of the building for the drop-in centre should be completed very soon. This is where those who are living on the streets will be able to come and get a hot meal, medication, shower, clean clothing, and so on," Mayor Gager explained.

He pointed out that the Poor Relief Department will work to reconnect the homeless with their families.

The Falmouth Mayor expressed confidence that the indigents will buy in to the drop-in centre as some of them now visit the nearby infirmary where they are provided with a hot meal five days per week.



TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Consideration is being given to allow the recent traffic changes implemented in the Georgian town of Falmouth for the Christmas season to be permanent.

Mayor of Falmouth and Chairman of the Trelawny Municipal Corporation, Councillor C. Junior Gager said a meeting will be convened with stakeholders to determine the future, after the overwhelming success of the Christmas changes - which was a temporary measure implemented to ease traffic congestion in the historic town over the festive season.

In anticipation of increased volume of traffic during the festive season, the National Works Agency (NWA), after consultation with the Jamaica Constabulary Force, Island Traffic Authority and the Jamaica Fire Brigade, implemented new one-way systems along several streets in the town.

The changes affected the section of Market Street between the new commercial centre and the intersection of Market and

Trelawny streets. George Street, meanwhile, was made a one-way in an easterly direction from Market Street onto Tharpe Street, and also from Crooked Street onto Tharpe Street. This new one-way system primarily impacts commuters travelling out of the town centre of Falmouth towards the north coast highway.

Motorists exiting the town of Falmouth now travel via Harbour Street and then onto the new roadway, which was constructed in the vicinity of Gate 5 of the Falmouth Pier.

His Worship saluted the police, Trelawny Chamber of Commerce, motorists, and all stakeholders who have supported the move to change the traffic system to ease traffic congestion in the town.

He said the Municipal Corporation went the extra mile to facilitate designated parking along Tharpe Street and at a vacant lot near the market.



**TRELAWNY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
250TH ANIVERSARY PLANNING
COMMITTEE**

For more information contact:

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*“Trelawny originated in 1770 from a
division of St. James”*

Trelawny 250th Anniversary Calendar

Saturday, February 8	Concert Series in Celebration of Reggae Month – “Children of the Icons”
Sunday, April 19, 2020	250 th Anniversary Church Service
Sunday, May 31	All White Soiree, Cabana Beach Daze - Blue Waters Beach Club in Trelawny
Monday, May 25	Labour Day
August 1 -9	Diaspora/Homecoming Week
Monday, October 19	Heroes Day
November	Local Government Month
Wednesday, December 9	Falmouth Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony
Wednesday, December 16	SDC Annual Falmouth Business Fair
Saturday, December 26	Inaugural Mayor’s Banquet
Tuesday, December 29	Birthdate of the parish

