

ORG 2017 Candidate Questionnaire

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In your view, what are the three most important problems facing the Bahamas today?	Jobs and the Economy Crime Poor Governance
If the next government could enact only one major law, it should be:	Fiscal Responsibility (this addresses fiscal policy, particularly as it relates to taxation, spending and borrowing)
Do you believe that Ministers should be accountable for the performance and efficiency of their government Ministries?	Yes, strongly
Do you support the Freedom of Information Act 2016?	Yes
Do you support strong legislation to protect “whistleblowers”?	Yes, strongly
Do you support The Public Disclosure Act of 1977 requiring elected officials, parties, and candidates to submit regular reports on their election expenses, to be made available to the public?	Yes, the most recent report must be gazetted
Do you support the proposed Interception of Communications Bill allowing government to conduct surveillance on the public for reasons of national security, subversion, public morality, public safety and public order?	Yes, but with conditions (List any below) Provided it does not infringe upon fundamental constitutional and human rights.
Do you believe that the Privy Council should remain the highest court in the nation?	Yes, but with conditions (List any below) The application of the Criminal Law is not impeded in our jurisdiction. In addition a consultation paper should be prepared exploring the pros and cons of maintaining this court as our highest court. The consultative document should also speak to a possible timeline of becoming fully independent from a judicial perspective.

Do you support the independence of the Judiciary and an independent Prosecutor's Office?

Yes, strongly

Do you support passage of a legislation which would require regular publication of data on the performance of government agencies and their use of public resources?

Yes, strongly

Do you support standards and regulations for Political Party Constitutions that ensure the greatest level of democracy?

Yes, strongly

Do you support passage of a legislation which would require regular publication of data on the performance of government agencies and their use of public resources?

Yes, strongly

Do you support requiring all secondary schools to offer civics education that provides theoretical and political and practical aspects of citizenship, its rights and duties; the Constitution, the Westminster system of governance, democracy, and the electoral process?

Yes, strongly

Do you support requiring curriculum in all schools that focus on social and emotional skills, such as conflict resolution and decision making?

Yes, strongly

Do you support legislation making it easier to create new learning environments, such as charter schools, designed to provide students and families alternate approaches and resources than currently exist in the public education system?

Yes, strongly

Do you support requiring all secondary schools to offer job-related apprenticeship programs?

Yes, strongly

Do you support making regular teacher evaluations mandatory?

Yes, strongly

Do you support public-private partnerships and the outsourcing of certain government functions for greater efficiencies?

Yes, but with conditions (List any below)
Bahamian owned/managed firms should have pre-emptive rights where the expertise and management exist. Additionally, the procurement process must be fair, open and accountable.

Do you support a Fiscal Responsibility Act that would limit government spending and provide more accountability?

Yes, but with conditions (List any below)
Flexibility is provided to account for natural disasters and national emergencies.

Do you support removing exchange controls and the free circulation of both Bahamian and US Dollars?

Yes, but with conditions (List any below)
The approach must be measured and a determination has to be made whether we move toward full dollarisation of the economy.

Do you support government intervention to lower banks' prime interest rates?

Yes, but with conditions (List any below)
Provided we mitigate the impact to investments, pension plans, long-term insurers, NIB, etc. and couple this move with the liberalisation of exchange controls for investment purposes. Additionally, a functioning Credit Bureau with a Credit Reporting is crucial when initiating such a move to address the micro debt crisis.

Do you support the reduction or elimination of work permits and fees for firms that pledge to engage in industry-recognized workforce development training?

Yes, but with conditions

Do you support reforming immigration policies to balance employment needs with skills, and to improve coordination among government agencies?

Yes, strongly

Do you support legislation and administrative changes to improve collections and compliance within the current tax code?

Yes, strongly

Thank you for completing the questionnaire! If you would like a profile photo posted with your response, please upload one here. (optional)



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