

THE PROGRESSIVE TIMES

THE POWER OF THE PEOPLE



VOTE FOR A GOVERNMENT THAT PUTS BERMUDIANS FIRST

The day before he and his OBA government were due to face a vote of no confidence in Parliament, the Premier has called an election. Clearly, he has done this to avoid the results of that vote, but he cannot avoid the verdict of no confidence that will be delivered at the ballot box on July 18th.

The minority OBA Government had lost their mandate to govern and the PLP welcomes the forthcoming general election so that the people of the country the OBA has worked so hard to divide can now decide their future.

Bermuda has suffered for four years under the OBA and our families cannot withstand another term of their divisive policies and arrogant leadership. In the last four years Bermuda has lost 2000 jobs, Bermuda's debt has doubled and the gap between the haves and have nots has increased. Bermudians are enduring an ever increasing cost of living with wages that aren't covering our needs. Bermudian parents, students,

and teachers are suffering with an under-resourced public education system that is an afterthought to the OBA. Bermudians have had 4 years of jobs losses, downsizing, outsourcing, and an uncertain future.



Bermuda can do better than we're doing under the OBA.

The PLP is ready to be your next Government. We have listened to you and we have learned from you. We know that the most important issues that affect our

country's future require a measured and bipartisan approach. Our country is facing a jobs crisis.

The next PLP Government will implement a fair immigration policy that promotes Bermudian employment and stimulates economic growth. Pathways to Status is not the solution, despite the OBA's efforts to force it upon us. We will reduce the costs of employment through bipartisan tax reform and reduce healthcare costs through greater competition and the use of technology.

Your PLP Government will introduce retraining programs to ensure higher levels of employment for Bermudians. Let's get our Bermudians back to work.

We're confident that if we come together, on July 18th, the people will elect a government that puts Bermudians first.

While the countdown begins, this election is about a better tomorrow for us all.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT: EDUCATION

MP Diallo Rabain



For far too long, the topic of Public Education has been one that seems to draw more negative comments than positive. Regardless of which political party forms the Government, it is clear that most Bermudians want solutions to our public education issues and not excuses.

Bermuda deserves better and we can do better when we take the politics out of education, put an end to petty squabbling and make our children a priority.

The PLP is committed to restructuring the public education system so that parents will trust the system.. A system that will provide our students with the tools necessary to achieve in this technological world. We commit to listening to all stakeholders as we perform preliminary assessments to identify what is working and what is not. It is critically important that we consult all parents, teachers, administrators and Unions, to ensure that we improve what is working, but where re-tooling and restructuring is needed, the proper steps are taken to address these needs.

The Middle School system, a system that has helped to erode the trust parents have in our public-school system, will be re-assessed. The PLP is committed to ensuring proper assessments of this system is conducted as it is it very clear that a change in direction is needed.

Minister Simons accused the PLP of doing “nothing in 14 years”, a phrase rooted in pre-election hyperbole. During the PLP’s 14 years in office, there were significant advancements made, including, but not limited to –

- Commissioning the Hopkins report, of which 8 of 10 recommendations were implemented
- Implementing the Internationally recognized Cambridge Curriculum
- Introduction of Career Pathways
- Implementing the Dual Enrollment Programme at Bermuda College

- Increased funding for Bermuda Government Educational Awards
- Reducing Class size

We understand there is much more to be done to advance our students and to prepare them for the future, and the PLP is committed to that task. Today, there are two Bermudas; one where access to quality education and a pathway to higher education and a career are a given and the other Bermuda that has been neglected and forgotten for too long. Bermuda can do better.



PLP STANDS WITH BERMUDA’S TEACHERS

In the OBA's Bermuda, neglect of our public schools, disrespect for our teachers and ignoring the safety of our students has, unfortunately, become the norm. Today's protest may have come as a surprise to the OBA, but for the rest of Bermuda this latest protest was inevitable.

It is difficult to tell the people trusted to educate and protect our children that there is no money for the basic necessities to ensure them a quality education because Bermuda is broke. However, the reality is that money is seemingly endless for the OBA when it comes to the America's Cup and other projects that they deem to be more important.

Bermuda can do better and it will do better when we have a government that cares and invests in all of Bermuda.

THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

NEWS FROM THE HILL



IN THE SPOTLIGHT: EDUCATION

MP Diallo Rabain



As the Spokesperson for Education, I visited both Harrington Sound Primary and Dellwood Middle School recently due to reports of Teacher complaints of Health and Safety Concerns. Each incident resulted in the School staff withdrawing their services citing health and safety reasons

The TN Tatem mould infestation provided an opportunity for the OBA to refocus their priorities on Health and Safety issues in our Public Schools. Instead, As Minister Cole Simons, recent remarked, the OBA has once again dropped that ball on our public-school students and teachers. The current state of affairs is unacceptable. I call on the Minister of Education to provide assurances that these situations will be dealt with in a timely manner and that the health and safety of our all our Schools will be assessed. We cannot wait for yet another incident in another school to occur before taking action.

It is simply amazing that within the last few weeks we have witnessed Harrington Sound Primary School and the Dellwood Middle School closed for emergency health and Safety concerns. At Harrington Sound Primary, there was an infestation of bird mites and at Dellwood, the familiar story of mouldy rooms was the reason for closure. In both cases, as incredible as it may seem, both incidents, involved teachers having to contact the Department of Health before their concerns were addressed.

We can ill afford for our children to miss any days in schools and it is simply disappointing to see schools having to close in this fashion. As we wait again for yet another report to come back for yet another school, questions must be asked as to the priorities of the OBA government.



HARRINGTON SOUND PRIMARY SCHOOL
MEET REGARDING BIRD MITE INFESTATION

DELLWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL



DELLWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL - HERITAGE MONTH SHOWCASE



DELLWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL
MEET REGARDING MOULD & INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES



OBA LOSES CONTROL OF THE HOUSE

NO CONFIDENCE MOTION / DECRIMINALISATION / INTEREST RATE

The Progressive Labour Party won two major victories for the people. Since 2014, the PLP has fought to decriminalise simple possession of small amounts of cannabis and, despite opposition from members of the OBA Cabinet, the bill passed.

Additionally, over the objections of the Minister of Finance, the PLP successfully passed a bill to reduce Bermuda's Statutory Interest Rate from 7% to 3.5%.

Over the last year, two founding members of the OBA voted with their feet and reduced the OBA to a minority government without a mandate to govern.

Two of those same OBA MPs voted against their former party. In fact,

they voted against the OBA twice - including on a significant measure that will protect our young people from gaining unnecessary criminal records.

These votes have revealed that the minority OBA government no longer has control of Parliament. Having lost the support of even their founding members, it is clear that it is time to take it to the people and for Bermudians to decide the direction of Bermuda's future.

Bermuda can do better than the failed minority OBA government. That's why we have introduced this motion of no confidence. It's time to put the power in the hands of the people and let them choose a government that puts Bermudians first.

LEADER DAVID BURT ON RACE, ETHNICITY AND THE TWO BERMUDAS

(EXCERPTS & VIDEO CLIP COURTESY OF BERNEWS)

"I believe that building a Bermuda of inclusion, empathy and opportunity for all is the only way forward and the only hope for a better Bermuda." Opposition Leader David Burt said. This statement was made as Mr. Burt delivered a speech entitled "Race, Ethnicity and the Two Bermudas" this afternoon [May 16] at the Hamilton Rotary Club meeting.

"With Bermuda's natural beauty and the welcoming kindness of Bermudians – we appear to be paradise. And for some, Bermuda really is just that. For others however, it is quite the opposite," Mr. Burt said. Last month, the Bank of Bermuda Foundation released the findings of their two-year comprehensive review. They acknowledged that, 'Bermuda is a historically, overtly racially segregated and fundamentally unfair society.' Simply put, they concluded that Two Bermudas clearly do exist. They went on to say 'one where access to opportunity, financial security and general well-being is very difficult to achieve, and another Bermuda where, for some, there appear to be few obstacles in their path. Ask one Bermudian if this is true and the answer is no. Yet ask another Bermudian and they would speak of the pain they have lived and witnessed in experiencing added hurdles placed in their path. One Bermuda sees no unfairness in the way Bermuda operates, because to them, it has given them every opportunity.

"This is the basic foundation of our two Bermudas: not only do they exist, but only one side, that which does not benefit, can acknowledge it. So, what are we to do about it? Firstly, without awareness and acknowledgment there can be no action. We cannot fix what we will not face."

"For many Bermudians, struggle is something that has always defined us. Others in our community don't understand it at all. This is one of the fundamental divides we see between the Two Bermudas, and, to say that race doesn't play a role in this divide is to lack a fundamental understanding of our country's history. With megayachts now arriving daily and international eyes on Bermuda, the facade seems more important than ever. Yet how can we create paradise when poverty meets privilege at every mark?



"The answer is in the ABCs," Mr. Burt said, adding that "A" is for acknowledgement, and "B" is for "Building a better Bermuda that works for all and not just for some. We must build a Bermuda that dismantles racism, by identifying and challenging those

who perpetuate it.

"We must build a Bermuda that values all our children, by properly resourcing our public schools and our public school teachers," Mr. Burt said. "We must build a Bermuda that creates real opportunities for Bermudians, by implementing fair immigration policies that promote employment and stimulate economic growth. To build the Bermuda we need, we must dismantle the Two Bermudas we have. How do we achieve this? In my view this cannot be done without the "C" of Collaboration. We frequently talk of bipartisan reform, but by "collaboration" I do not just mean by political parties, this buy-in must extend beyond Government and take place across all segments of our community. From community clubs to social events, from big business to cultural initiatives to community service organisations like Rotary, across the board we must look at how together we can achieve our goals to build the Bermuda that benefits us all.

"True change cannot happen unless both the two Bermudas recognise that for our country to advance, for our country to unify, and for our country to progress, we must take real action to create one Bermuda. My speech today is a call to both the privileged and to the disaffected," Mr. Burt said.

Video of Leader MP Burt's speech can be found here

<http://bernews.com/2017/05/david-burt-race-ethnicity-two-bermudas/>



LABOUR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

OBA'S LIMITED IDEAS ARE LIMITING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BERMUDIANS

MP Rolfe Commissiong



The OBA's announcement of a "National Talent Pool" for Bermudians seeking construction work is not without merit, however it is yet another reminder of the OBA's failure to keep their promise to create 2,000 jobs for Bermudians; they lack a coherent plan to create jobs and possess a seeming inability to grasp that Bermudians need work in fields beyond construction. Job losses are still mounting in international business and among white collar professionals, yet the OBA have exacerbated the problem

by raising the cost of doing business in Bermuda, failing to diversify their economy and failing to invest in the training and development of Bermudians. Furthermore, they ignored calls from the PLP to produce a workforce development strategy, identify upcoming projects and opportunities for Bermudians such as those related to the America's Cup. This would have allowed Bermudians to know what jobs would be available and for training to be put in place to ensure that our people were prepared to fill those jobs. This was ignored. The OBA's limited ideas are limiting Bermudian opportunities and as a result Bermudian jobs continue to shrink under the OBA while non-Bermudian jobs continue to grow.



Bermuda can do better and it will do better with a change of priorities and a change in approach that will come with a change in government.

The PLP believes that we must:

- ◆ Develop and implement a National Skills Strategy, with human resource assessment playing a key role in determining the current and future occupational needs of our economy.
- ◆ Introduce an Office of Economic Diversification to take the politics and red tape out of inward investment, introduce new economic pillars and create new opportunities for Bermudians to be hired, trained and advance in careers.
- ◆ Reverse OBA policies that have driven up the cost of doing business in Bermuda, jeopardised jobs and stifled entrepreneurship.
- ◆ Introduce a skills registry as a key component of the National Skills Strategy in order to track the skills that are available on island. Crucially, this register will also serve as a database of Bermudians living and working overseas and their respective skill levels who may be looking for an opportunity to return home in order to take their rightful place in the workforce.

PLP SUPPORTS LABOUR:

BERMUDA UNION OF TEACHERS

Nothing illustrates more the ongoing deteriorating state of Labour Relations in the minority OBA Government's Bermuda than the recent protest by the Bermuda Union of Teachers on the Cabinet grounds. Having seen their negotiations stalled since January, the BUT was right to protest the length of time it has taken to secure a new collective bargaining agreement. But they are not alone. Every union in Bermuda which represents government workers are in the same unacceptable position. The Bermuda Industrial Union and the Bermuda Public Services Union have also been without a new collective bargaining agreement since 2012.

While they go without a raise in over five years, inflation eats away at these members' stagnated salaries. They experience their standard of living, and that of their families, decline as the ruinous cost of living in the two Bermudas continues to erode the middle class.

The OBA Government does not have teachers' interests at heart, nor that of their students who have been shortchanged again and again. In their fifth year as government, the OBA has shown they have plenty of time to negotiate an airport contract with a Canadian entity, find the funds for America's Cup, and provide concessions left, right and centre for foreign investors. But when it comes to employment contracts for our mostly Bermudian teachers, they are last on the list.

The Progressive Labour Party makes a firm commitment that as government we will establish a healthier relationship with our trade unions and enhance worker protections. We view our unions as valued stakeholders and public servants who make Bermuda work; and not as adversaries to be treated as if they are surplus to requirements.



COMMITTED TO GOOD GOVERNANCE

MP Lovitta Foggio



Last week the country witnessed Premier Michael Dunkley's inability to take a strong position on a fundamental issue of good governance.

We know why Premier Dunkley can't commit to the wholesale reform of the Parliamentary Register of Interests and campaign finance reform. Sitting alongside him in his Minority Government are two OBA colleagues, Deputy Premier Bob Richards and Jefferson Sousa MP, who failed to fully disclose their financial interests in advance of the 2012 election. As much as Premier Dunkley wants to rewrite history in

the election season, he can't. To the people of Bermuda, actions speak louder than words, and the reality is that the Premier has had nearly five years to address the Register of Interests and Campaign Finance reform and all the other promises made by the OBA in 2012 that they failed to keep.

Only now, on the eve of a No Confidence Vote and eve of an election, does the Premier make vague overtures to do something – but can't say what. It has long been clear to the people that he will never bring real and meaningful campaign finance reform forward.

The hypocrisy is clear to see. We all remember how the OBA's 2012 election campaign was funded by foreign casino operators to the tune of \$350,000.00 – the Jetgate scandal. The OBA relies on substantial contributions from wealthy interests overseas and Bermuda to fill their election war chest. Why would they change that? The OBA has proven they don't like questions about where their campaign money comes from. Initially, the OBA flat-out denied the financial contributions occurred and when the Jetgate scandal was exposed, the OBA promised to make the final investigative report public. When the OBA Chairman resigned in apparent disgust, OBA Leader Dunkley made sure the investigative report was never made public.

It's time for the blatant hypocrisy of the OBA to end. But that will only come through true change. A change in leadership to start to set our country on the right path, the PLP has committed to bringing transparency to political party financing upon taking office and won't waver in our commitment to do so. The people of Bermuda deserve to know that their elected leaders are working for them, not working to benefit themselves at the people's expense.



Opposition Leader David Burt and the PLP are on record supporting campaign finance reform. The next PLP government will introduce legislation to regulate political campaign finances to ensure a level playing field and reduce the risk of corruption at a political level. We believe that the best policy ideas should win – not the political party with the biggest war chest. We see the introduction of campaign finance laws as a long overdue safeguard for our democracy.

We will introduce Integrity in Public Office legislation to modernise our laws surrounding the buying of votes, voter fraud, conflicts of interest and other aspects of our electoral and political process subject to abuse by those who would seek to use wealth, influence or intimidation to obtain political or economic power. The PLP will also ensure that changes are made to the Register of Interests to facilitate more disclosure of the financial interests of MP's and Senators.

On Good Governance, the PLP will go even further. We will implement that SAGE Commission recommendation, rejected by the OBA, to establish three permanent oversight committees to oversee the work of Parliament. Democracy is meant to represent the people, and the people's representatives should have the ability to provide the oversight that leads to better outcomes.

PLP CALLS ON OBA TO TAKE ACTION ON BERMUDIAN JOBS

MP Walton Brown



In light of the news that Butterfield Bank is considering moving jobs from Bermuda to Halifax, the PLP calls on the minority OBA government to take action to keep Bermudian jobs here in Bermuda. The job of the Bermuda government is to stand strong for Bermudian workers and create Bermudian jobs. When the government learns that Bermudian jobs are under threat, they should do everything they can to protect these jobs. Under the minority OBA government, our economy has lost nearly 2,000 existing jobs - after they broke their promise to create 2,000 new jobs. Now, they have an opportunity to save some. We implore the OBA government to work with Butterfield Bank to save Bermudian jobs. The PLP's Vision 2025 includes a realistic plan to increase Bermudian jobs including bipartisan tax reform to make our economy more competitive and to reduce the incentive to outsource jobs.



THE ECONOMIC REALITY

Sen Kim Wilkerson



The PLP is deeply concerned that Bermuda's economy has slipped back into recession, as evidenced by the Department of Statistic's latest data that shows Bermuda's economy shrank in the last two quarters of 2016.

Of additional concern is last week's release of the quarterly bulletin of statistics that revealed a loss of over 120 Bermudian jobs in the hotel

industry, while there was an increase of 59 jobs held by non-Bermudian work permit holders.

These alarming numbers are clear evidence that the OBA minority government's economy is not working for Bermudians; our economy is not growing, the cost of living continues to rise, and Bermudians are increasingly losing out to guest workers on the few jobs that do exist.

The facts of the OBA's economic record are simple: in just four years they have doubled Bermuda's debt from \$1.2 billion to \$2.4 billion while simultaneously losing 2,000 jobs. The OBA's cuts to education and failure to coordinate resources around training and retooling

have led to reduced opportunities for Bermudians which is increasing the divide between the 2 Bermudas.

It seems as if Bob Richards and the minority OBA Government are both ignoring the facts and economic pain felt by many Bermudians. Bob Richards is entitled to his own opinions, but not his own facts. The fact is that in the third and fourth quarter of 2016, GDP fell by 1.8% and 2.4% respectively. A recession is defined by two consecutive quarters of negative GDP growth. Bermuda's economy has re-entered a recession and Bob Richards cannot redefine the laws of economics.

Bermuda can do better than it's doing under the OBA.

Under the OBA, the divide between the two Bermudas is increasing. The Minister's disconnect from the economic reality that most Bermudians are feeling could be that in the OBA's Bermuda, things are going well and the haves are getting ahead. But, in the rest of Bermuda, Bermudians are struggling to find work as Bermudian jobs disappear, falling behind due to the ever-increasing cost of living, and they are fearful of a future that could include the OBA bringing back Pathways to Status.

If the OBA government cannot even realise that the economy is not working for the majority of Bermudians, how can they be trusted to build an economy that works for you?

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

MP Kim Wilson



Since 1949 the month of May has been established as Mental Health Awareness Month in the United States.

This is a time set aside not only to educate the public about mental health but also to reduce the stigma and discrimination that people with mental illness are often subjected to.

In our small community, we watch as that stigma deters our family members and friends from getting much needed help.

The PLP believes that mental illness must be addressed as a matter of urgency in Bermuda and that it requires that resources be directed towards it in the same manner as physical health.

The theme of this year's Mental Health Awareness Month is "Risky Business", an examination of the behaviours that develop or exacerbate mental illnesses, or behaviours that could be signs of mental health problems themselves.

The clearest and most recognisable of these risky behaviours is the abuse and misuse of alcohol and drugs. Regrettably, more and more persons in our community are falling victim to the disease of addiction. We must do a better job of aiding those who wish to break free from the grip of addiction and manage their disease.

The next PLP government will re-evaluate the services available to persons who may be struggling with drug addiction and alcoholism, so as to enable them to lead a more purpose driven life, free from the bonds of addiction.

Often times, the community looks at addiction as an isolated problem, failing to consider the vast amount of scientific evidence supporting the fact that there is a clear connection between substance abuse and mental health disorders.

A PLP Government is committed to addressing this and will conduct a comprehensive review of inpatient and outpatient mental health services in Bermuda with a view towards making progressive reform. In addition, we will ensure that the provisions of crucial dual-diagnosis services for persons affected both by substance abuse addiction and mental illness are provided for those within our prison and residential treatment facilities.

THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

NEWS FROM THE HILL



IN SOLIDARITY

INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' DAY

This May Day, our PLP parliamentarians and members were honoured to march beside union leaders, members and activists to mark **International Workers' Day**. Fundamental rights that we take for granted today would not have been attained without union workers fighting for them. However, in Bermuda, where workers' leaders are under attack, the fight for social justice must rage on.

In the rest of the world, May Day honours union demonstrators who died in a police attack during a peaceful protest. The irony is that this May Day in Bermuda, our union leaders were dragged before the court for participating in a peaceful protest, where they were attacked without provocation by police.

The PLP continues to be angered that no one has taken responsibility or been brought to justice for the pepper spraying of innocent Bermudians, including the elderly. In these two Bermudas, attackers are protected and victims are persecuted. This is a disgusting attempt to silence and shut down those fighting for transparency.

Opposition Leader David Burt: *"The Progressive Labour Party is just that, a labour party; one that was founded out of the movement for workers and we will always stand in solidarity with them. A whitewashed peer report and attempts to intimidate activists through unjust persecution will not silence us or stop us from demanding answers. For the last five years, we have seen Bermudian workers ignored and marginalised by the OBA Government. Now, they are being persecuted for daring to stand against this. Our union leaders support the workers, and the PLP supports them."*





BERMUDA WORKS BEST WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER

Dr. Ernest Peets Jr.



One thing I have noticed as a political outsider is that when a government chooses to go it alone, it usually doesn't get the best results. This is not an indictment on any particular party, but rather an observation. No governing party has all the answers on every issue, and while each party may have their platforms and ideas on how to progress the country, to block out all opposition and criticism is reckless and dangerous.

During the past four years, we have seen very little bipartisanship; instead, we have experienced gridlock on significant issues such as immigration, tax reform and major construction projects. The public deserve better.

It is difficult to ignore the intransigence and blatant disregard displayed to the people by our political agents regarding their views in helping to solve our country's problems. When a government chooses to largely ignore or minimise honest critique or legitimate public concern, preferring instead to execute its own agenda, the consequence is the loss of public confidence. Party partisanship often favours politics instead of principles, conditions which of course are not necessarily in the best interest of the country.

The next Progressive Labour Party government has pledged to govern in a spirit of bipartisanship. It is expected that elected officials will disagree; however, when the opinions and suggestions of others are completely ignored or silenced, we all lose. Governance should be about listening and consulting with the Opposition and the taxpayers, so that decisions fully represent the interest of our constituents and Bermuda alike.

Issues of critical national importance, or issues that have deep social or economic ramifications require party bipartisanship and full participation from civil society and the public. It is critically important that all voices are heard. For example, on the issues of immigration, tax reform and major construction projects that will possibly span two governmental terms, the next PLP government pledges to form bipartisan and multi-representative committees to ensure the widest possible representation.

This just makes sense. These types of Bills and projects should be open to questions, critique and input from all sides.

To accomplish this, the PLP government proposes forming three distinct groups. Each group will consist of representatives from the

Government, the Opposition, members of international business, union representatives, members of the legal fraternity and the construction industry where applicable.

1. COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM GROUP

This group will be tasked with making recommendations to the Government regarding immigration reform.

2. BERMUDA TAX REFORM GROUP

This group will be tasked with reviewing Bermuda's existing tax structure and the Government's revenue intake, and make recommendations to the Government.

3. MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS GROUP

This group will review proposed building projects, and make recommendations to the Government regarding feasibility and social impact.

There is much work needed to build a better Bermuda for all Bermudians. We can do it if we work together. We need everybody working together; that includes individuals, families, businesses and the Government — all working towards a common goal. This is how the next PLP government will govern.

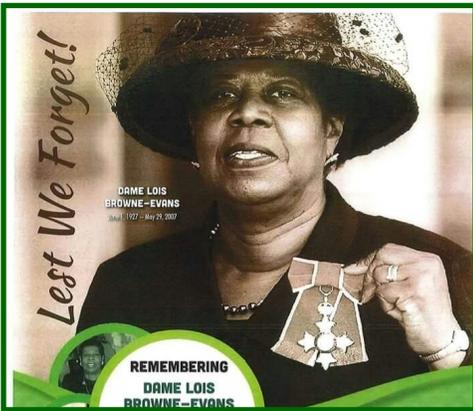
The PLP is ready to tackle the big issues facing everyday Bermudians, whether it's the rising cost of healthcare, jobs, crime, immigration or tax reform. Political acrimony and hostility on issues that are essential to our mutual success as a community is not in the best interest of our country. The PLP hasn't forgotten the wisdom of Alex Scott, the former premier, who eloquently stated: "Bermuda works best when we work together."

The PLP believes there is a better way to help our country move forward, and is ready to work on it together.



OUR PROUD HISTORY; OUR STRONG FOUNDATION

REMEMBERING DAME LOIS BROWNE-EVANS



On the 10th anniversary of the passing of Bermuda's National Hero and political trailblazer Dame Lois Browne-Evans, the Progressive Labour Party recently held a night of music and tributes honouring her at Dr. E.F. Gordon Memorial Hall at BIU.

Dame Lois Browne Evans was Bermuda's first female barrister, the first black woman to be elected to Parliament in Bermuda and the first female Leader of the Opposition in the entire British Commonwealth as well as Bermuda's first female Attorney General.

PLP Leader David Burt remarked, "Bermudians owe a tremendous debt to Dame Lois Browne-Evans for her hard work, sacrifice and commitment to building a Bermuda that works for every Bermudian. We acknowledge her and pay tribute to her not just as a former leader of the Progressive Labour Party but as someone who improved Bermuda for everyone.....She was a legend whom I looked at in awe when I joined the PLP," Mr Burt said. "We would not be here without the sacrifices she made through her life,



and we should also pay a debt to her children because the sacrifices she made were shared with her family." Party Leader also stated: "If we put Bermuda first we can create the Bermuda of Dame Lois's dreams."

Also giving tributes were son Donald Evans, parliamentary colleague MP Kim Wilson and Wayne Caines as well as musical selections from Toni Robinson.

Mr. Donald Evans gave a loving tribute to his mother's legacy and noted that "The PLP of today can win this election the same way my mother repeatedly won Devonshire North back in the day.....making David Burt Premier is our goal". He reminded the audience that the clock was ticking.

MP Kim Wilson spoke of the honour of having Dame Lois call her to the Bermuda Bar in 1995 noting that: "She was a woman of her word and she practised what she preached. To her the law was a vehicle for social justice and change; and she was deeply committed to that. She saw politics as a means of working for people



who are marginalised."

Mr. Wayne Caines said: "While we sit here and bask in her success let's not forget the sacrifices she had to make. She realised that to whom much is given, much is required."

It was truly an inspiring evening which was enjoyed by all who attend.





CONSTITUENCIES 17 TO 20'S JOINT BRANCH SENIORS TEA HELD ON MAY 13, 2017 AT WEST PEMBROKE SCHOOL.



VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE AT BIU GAS



LEADER DAVID BURT WITH MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP AND EXECUTIVE AT THE BPSU'S 65TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET



C 4 PHENOMENAL CANVASSING TEAM



LEADER BURT JOINS BPSU PRESIDENT JASON HAYWARD ON A MARCH TO THE MAGISTRATE COURT HEARING ON THE DECEMBER 2ND PEPPER SPRAY INCIDENT



CONSTITUENCY 27 CLEAN-UP AT PURVIS



MP TYRRELL CANVASSING IN CONSTITUENCY 26

MAKE A DIFFERENCE: VOTE

Sen Renee Ming



The Progressive Labour Party is calling on the youth of Bermuda - and all unregistered Bermudians - to register to vote. We have heard you; I have heard you!

I canvass and talk to young Bermudians daily and I hear the concerns that they have with their island home. I and my PLP colleagues understand the hopelessness that you feel with employment for you and your families.

I understand your concerns about being able to afford to live in your Bermuda.

I hear your concerns with the increased amount of protest and unprecedented division and unrest in our island home.

I hear you and the PLP hears you.

Young people you are our future; I implore you to take your rightful place; participate and be engaged. It's time for you to sit at the table and be a part of the process to really move our island forward and put Bermudians first

To those unregistered voters; it's time for you to let your voice be heard in your island home. We need you! You can no longer sit back and watch. We all have to work together to see and be the progress that we want.

Bermudians of all races and ages we must close our gaps and build relationships for a better Bermuda. Please register to vote and really make a difference.



DID YOU KNOW?

PARLIAMENTARY REGISTRATION



FAQS

◆ HOW CAN I CONFIRM THAT I AM REGISTERED?

Registration lists are always on display at all post offices, police stations, the library, the Parliamentary Registry, and online at www.elections.gov.bm.

◆ CAN I VOTE IF I WILL BE OFF ISLAND OR IN THE HOSPITAL ON POLLING DAY?

Persons who expect to be off the island or in hospital on polling day, may vote at an advanced poll approximately one week before. Certificates of intended absence or incapacity are required which can be obtained from the office of the Parliamentary Registry.

◆ WHERE DO I GO TO VOTE ON ELECTION DAY?

Voters vote in the constituency in which they are registered. A list of polling stations is published prior to Election Day, in the newspaper and on our website at www.elections.gov.bm.

◆ DO I NEED PHOTO IDENTIFICATION IN ORDER TO VOTE?

Yes. Every voter MUST show Identification to vote. Acceptable forms of ID are a commonwealth passport, a Bermuda driver's license, a Special Persons Card, Voters Identification Card or an employee identification card with a photo, signature and date of birth.

◆ HOW LONG ARE POLLING STATIONS OPENED?

The polling stations open at 8.00 a.m. and close at 8.00 p.m.

ELECTION 2017 POLLING STATIONS

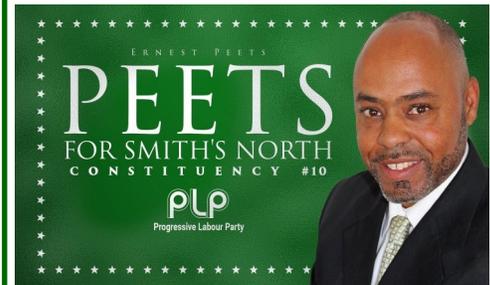
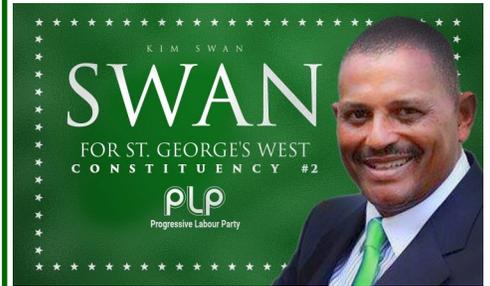
THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION ACT 1978

NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in pursuance of the provisions of section 30 of the Parliamentary Election Act 1978, that on 12 June 2017 His Excellency the Governor issued writs of election for the election and return of one person as a member of the House of Assembly for each of the thirty-six parliamentary constituencies in Bermuda.

1. Nomination Day is 4 July 2017
2. Polling Day is 18 July 2017
3. The election rooms are as follows:

CONSTITUENCIES	LOCATION OF ELECTION ROOMS
1 St. George's North	East End Primary School
2 St. George's West	Penno's Wharf Terminal
3 St. Davids	Clearwater Middle School
4 St. George's South	Holy Trinity Church Hall
5 Hamilton East	Francis Patton Primary School
6 Hamilton West	Harrington Sound Primary School
7 Hamilton South	Whitney Institute
8 Smith's South	Elliot Primary School
9 Smith's West	Somersfield Academy
10 Smith's North	Christ Church Hall, Devonshire
11 Devonshire East	Horticultural Hall, Botanical Gardens
12 Devonshire South Central	Visitors' Centre, Botanical Gardens
13 Devonshire North Central	Prospect Primary School
14 Devonshire North West	CedarBridge Academy
15 Pembroke East	Sports Pavilion, National Stadium
16 Pembroke East Central	Victor Scott Primary School
17 Pembroke Central	The Berkeley Institute
18 Pembroke West Central	Northlands Primary School
19 Pembroke West	West Pembroke Primary School
20 Pembroke South West	Seventh-day Adventist Church Hall, King Street
21 Pembroke South East	St. Paul's Church Hall, Hamilton
22 Paget East	St. Paul's Church Hall, Paget
23 Paget West	Evangelical Church Hall, Mission Road, Paget
24 Warwick South East	Bermuda College
25 Warwick North East	Paget Primary School
26 Warwick South Central	Bright Temple Church Hall
27 Warwick North Central	St. Mary's Church Hall
28 Warwick West	Purvis Primary School
29 Southampton East	Windreach Bermuda
30 Southampton East	Central Heron Bay Primary School
31 Southampton West Central	Mount Zion Church Hall
32 Southampton West	Dalton E. Tucker Primary School
33 Sandys South	Somers Isle Lodge
34 Sandys South Central	West End Primary School
35 Sandys North Central	Somerset Primary School
36 Sandys North	St. James Church Hall



ADVANCE POLLING

July 11th, 12th & 13th
@
the Seventh Day Adventist Church Hall
King Street
from
8am to 8pm

7 DAY REGISTRATION PERIOD

From Tuesday, June 13th to Monday June 19th
REGISTER AT
Parliamentary Registry's office
(also open Saturday, June 17th - 10am to 4pm)
3rd floor Craig Appin Building, Wesley Street, Hamilton
Or online at www.elections.gov.bm

THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

NEWS FROM THE HILL



Opposition Leader E. David Burt has revised responsibilities for PLP spokespersons commenting: "The PLP is a team of diverse talent and as part of our election readiness effort it is important that our MPs demonstrate to the people of Bermuda that they are ready for any challenge. These changes will bring fresh perspective and renewed energy to holding the OBA minority government accountable for its record of broken promises. In five years, they have lost 2000 jobs, doubled Bermuda's debt and shortchanged Bermudian students all with the result of further dividing our country. The OBA's failure to keep their promises has increased the divide between the 2 Bermudas."

- ◆ MP E. David Burt: Opposition Leader & PLP Spokesperson for Finance & Technology - **email:** dburt@plp.bm / **cell:** 333-4000
- ◆ MP Walter H Roban: Deputy Opposition Leader & PLP Spokesperson for Public Works - **email:** whroban@plp.bm / **cell:** 332-3900
- ◆ MP Dennis P. Lister: House Leader & PLP Spokesperson for the Environment & Energy Policy - **email:** dlister@plp.bm / **cell:** 535-1712
- ◆ MP Lovitta F. Foggo: Opposition Whip & PLP Spokesperson for Government Reform - **email:** lfoggo@plp.bm / **phone:** 297-2943
- ◆ Sen. Renee Ming: Senate Leader & PLP Spokesperson for Municipalities: **email:** raming@plp.bm / **cell:** 335-8338
- ◆ MP Walton Brown: PLP Spokesperson for Home Affairs - **email:** wbrown@plp.bm / **cell:** 504-4454
- ◆ MP Derrick Burgess: PLP Spokesperson for Seniors - **email:** dburgess@plp.bm / **phone:** 293-2776
- ◆ MP Rolfe Commissiong: PLP Spokesperson for Labour & Workforce Development - **email:** rcommissiong@plp.bm / **phone:** 232-8846
- ◆ MP Zane DeSilva: PLP Spokesperson for Public Safety - **email:** zdesilva@plp.bm / **phone:** 236-3011
- ◆ Sen. Tinee Furbert: PLP Spokesperson for Disability Affairs: - **email:** tfurbert@plp.bm / **cell:** 704-5636
- ◆ MP Wayne Furbert: PLP Spokesperson for Transport: - **email:** wfurbert@plp.bm / **cell:** 300-1956/
- ◆ MP Diallo Rabain: PLP Spokesperson for Education: - **email:** drabain@plp.bm / **cell:** 535-5469
- ◆ MP Lawrence Scott: PLP Spokesperson for Community & Culture : - **email:** lscott@plp.bm / **cell:** 505-8633
- ◆ MP Michael Scott: PLP Spokesperson for Justice- **email:** miscott@plp.bm / **cell:** 234-6940
- ◆ MP Jamahl Simmons: PLP Spokesperson for Tourism & Entrepreneurship - **email:** jamahls@plp.bm / **cell:** 704-9720
- ◆ MP Neville Tyrrell: PLP Spokesperson for Sports - **email:** ntyrrrell@plp.bm / **cell:** 536-1032
- ◆ MP Michael Weeks: PLP Spokesperson for Social Development & Drug Policy Reform - **email:** mweeks@plp.bm / **cell:** 599-3539
- ◆ Sen. Kim Wilkerson: PLP Spokesperson for Economic Development - **email:** kwilkerson@plp.bm / **cell:** 536-1032
- ◆ MP Kim Wilson: PLP Spokesperson for Health - **email:** kwilson@plp.bm / **cell:** 535-9484

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

ONLINE MEMBERSHIP SATISFACTION SURVEY

In keeping with the Executive Committee's commitment to consultation and collaboration with our membership, the Party launched an **online satisfaction survey**. The purpose of this survey is to gauge the opinion of our membership on a range of issues as well as to record satisfaction levels of the performance of the key organs of the Party. The results will assist with the Executive's strategic planning and will be used as a benchmark for future surveys to measure changes and will be an important tool to better represent you. Members were emailed a link to the anonymous and confidential survey on June 7th and are requested to complete this survey by **Friday, June 16, 2017**.

This is a unique opportunity for members to provide the Party with their feedback and, as such, all members are encouraged to make every effort to participate in this important initiative.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

THE EXECUTIVE



A few days ago I had a startling conversation with someone on Facebook.

Facebook conversations themselves are not surprising as thousands of Bermudians have them daily. However, something that the person stated struck a deep chord within me:

“white voters feel like non-entities. It is assumed by BOTH parties that there is no need to meet with us / talk to us / sway us. OBA assumes we’re voting for them. And PLP doesn’t need our votes”.

Looking at the person’s comments caused me to take a long pause before responding.

Immediately, my mind went back to canvassing during the 2012 election when we knocked on countless doors in what would be described as “White” neighborhoods only to be completely ignored, have them slammed in our face or watch as persons openly ripped our literature in front of our faces.

Essentially, it was not a nice experience that could rightly cause us to say that it is pointless canvassing white voters as they are anti-PLP. However, that in itself is statement that cast a wide brush and paints anyone who is white in an unfair manner.

Reading the various blogs one can easily think that we indeed live in “Two Bermudas” with all whites voting for OBA and all blacks voting PLP. However, it is not as clear cut as that when we go out on the doorsteps.

Knocking on thousands of doors since 2012 has revealed a slightly different narrative about person’s political views and leanings. Some to be expected and some not so readily expected.

Statistics over the years have always indicated near ninety-five percent of whites voters have supported the UBP and now support the OBA. So it could be easily argued that expecting whites to support the PLP is akin to chasing rainbows expecting there to be a pot of gold to be found.

However, despite previous experience and looming statistics,

we have embarked on a mission to knock on as many doors as possible before the next election. Often, we find many whites who openly state their concerns for themselves and the future generations of Bermuda.

There are those who do not tell us who they will vote for and then there are those who openly tell us that as Bermudians they see themselves firmly aligned with the working and middle classes of Bermuda. Essentially, that the party that puts Bermudians first will gain and retain their support at the polls.



As recently as this week we had a lady, who is not black, call us to request that we visit her as she has not seen her MP. Upon visiting her she spoke about how she wants both parties to realize that her skin colour does not determine where her X goes on the ballot sheet.

Indeed many older Bermudians of all ethnicities have expressed their concern for Bermuda and the way seniors seem to get looked over. The reality is that yes we have “Two Bermudas”. However, pigmentation is not the final determination of political affiliation.

NEXT ELECTION VOTE

Your employer must give you
2 hours to cast your vote

ALL POLLING STATIONS
OPEN FROM
8 AM - 8 PM

SHARE

THE MEMBERSHIP



MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE APPEAL

DEAR MEMBERS,

The time for change is upon us.

As we draw closer to an upcoming election, it is critically important that we, the Bermuda Progressive Labour Party, prepare ourselves as best we can. We cannot, however, do that without your support and donations. Your contribution will allow us to better our constituencies, communicate our vision, and ultimately return the government to the people.

Bermuda simply cannot afford another term of the OBA's failed and unfair policies and practices. Time and time again, the OBA remind us that their true agenda is to serve a select few whilst leaving a large segment of our society behind. It is clear there is only one party in Bermuda that stands for all Bermudians - and that is the PLP.

Solidarity today begets the change you would like to see for you and our future generations and whatever you donate augments this PLP vision, our future. To make a donation, we ask that you either complete the forms available at PLP Headquarters or pledge online using the website pledge.plp.bm. All donations are greatly appreciated.

**WE THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR TIME AND
CONTINUED SUPPORT**

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

COME JOIN OUR "PUTTING BERMUDIANS FIRST CAMPAIGN"

We are currently seeking committed and reliable members who can perform the duties of **Phone Bankers** and also for **Drivers** to transport voters to and from polling stations on Election Day.

PHONE BANKERS:

Phone Bankers greatly assist with engaging with the voter on behalf of PLP by phone.. Phone banking can be conducted in your home via cell, tablet or computer. At the PLP Headquarters, volunteers can also use the newly designed Phone Bank Library which is air conditioned and equipped with the necessary resources for phone banking.

ELECTION DAY DRIVERS:

Members and Supporters should be prepared to be available for 2 hours minimum on Election Day. The earliest shift will be from 7:30 am and the latest drop at a polling station will be 7:15 pm. Drivers may be required to transport persons in another constituency than their own and will require a fully charged phone.

Those persons interested in becoming a volunteer are invited to sign up via the party webpage www.plp.bm or contact our **Office Administrator - Sandi Gilbert** at 292-2264. You will be contacted as soon as possible.

We give a heartfelt THANK YOU to all who are actively making calls and generating new members, volunteers and donations.



Support the PLP!

*Join our efforts to ensure our Party is financially secure.
By filling out this form below you are committing to donate to the PLP.*

First Name

Last Name

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Postal Code

Country

Email

Donation Amount:

\$10 \$20 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1000

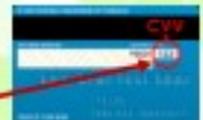
Other

Payment by Card:

Card Number: _____

Exp: ____/____

CVV Code: _____



OR Please send completed form and check payable to PLP addressed: Alaska Hall, 16 Court Street, Hamilton, HM 17

Automatically repeat this donation once a month, beginning in 30 days.

Bermuda Progressive Labour Party (PLP)

Fundraiser Golf Tournament



ENTRY FEE LEVELS:

- 1 PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP LEVEL**
\$10,000 includes 2 teams of 4 with green & cart fees, 2 sponsors tables and lunch for 16, signage at clubhouse, #1 & #18 Tee & green and a donation to PLP
- 2 GOLD SPONSORSHIP LEVEL**
\$5,000 includes 1 team of 4 with green & cart fees, sponsors table & lunch for 8, signage on a tee & green and a donation to PLP
- 3 SILVER SPONSORSHIP LEVEL**
\$2,000 includes 1 team of 4 with green & cart fees, lunch for 4, signage on a tee and donation to PLP
- 4 BRONZE SPONSORSHIP LEVEL**
\$500.00 includes 1 team of 4 green & cart fees, lunch for 4 and donation to PLP

8 am Shotgun Start

Tournament Format: Captains Choice in Teams of 4

TOURNAMENT SPONSORS:



Saturday June 17th at Belmont Hills Golf Course

Contact Persons:

Kim Swan JP
Phone: (441) 533-8321
Emails: kimswangolf@gmail.com

Zane DeSilva JP MP
Phone: (441) 505-3011
Emails: zane@ics.bm

Bermuda Progressive Labour Party (PLP) Fundraiser Golf Tournament



NAME OF TEAM: _____

Level of Sponsorship: Platinum Gold Silver Bronze

Team Captain #1 Name: _____
Handicap: _____ Tele#: _____

Player #2 Name: _____
Handicap: _____ Tele#: _____

Player #3 Name: _____
Handicap: _____ Tele#: _____

Player #4 Name: _____
Handicap: _____ Tele#: _____

Player Declaration: We agree to abide by the Rules of the Host Club and Tournament committee

Captain's signature: _____

Contact Persons:

Kim Swan JP
Phone: (441) 533-8321
Emails: kimswangolf@gmail.com

Zane DeSilva JP MP
Phone: (441) 505-3011
Emails: zane@ics.bm

Bermuda Progressive Labour Party
Butterfield Bank Current Account #20-006-060-158457-100
If making bank transfer please specify the funds are for PLP Golf Tournament

Credit/Debit Card Payments can be accepted at the PLP office

TOURNAMENT SPONSORS:



NEXT ELECTION VOTE



You must show VALID Government issued ID to vote.

- * Voter ID Card
- * Passport
- * Driver's Licence

ALL POLLING STATIONS
OPEN FROM
8 AM - 8 PM

SHARE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2017	Close of online membership survey	Link emailed to members	Midnight
SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2017	FUNDRAISER: <i>PLP Golf Tournament</i>	Belmont Hills Golf Club	8:00am
SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2017	FUNDRAISER: C2 Mother & Daughter Tea	Pennos Wharf	3:00pm

VOTING CHANGES THINGS

ST. PAUL A.M.E. CHURCH
HAMILTON

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE

Week Days - Monday - Friday 9am - 5 pm (Church Office)
Saturdays 10 am - 2 pm (Centennial Hall)
Sundays 1 pm - 2 pm (Church Office)
tel: 292-0505

VOTING

IS DEMOCRACY IN ACTON

Keep current with all PLP events
on <http://plp.bm/events>

REGISTER TO
VOTE
THIS WEEK

Come to PLP HQ, 16 Court Street
10AM - 2PM

Your vote. Your Bermuda.

BERMUDIANS
FIRST



Invitation



Under the Distinguished Patronage of

Opposition Senate Leader Opposition Whip Radio Personality
Senator Renee Ming, JP Ms Lovitta Foggo, MP JP Mrs Sherri Simmons

PLP Constituency #2

Cordially Invites You to Our Inaugural
"A Summertime
Mother & Daughter Sip of Tea"

Sunday, June 18th 3 pm | Pennos Wharf, St. George's
Proceeds to benefit PLP Constituencies 1, 2 & 3

Advance Tickets \$50 Mother & Daughter, \$30 each additional person

**Dress: Your most Chic attire, hats and gloves encouraged, but not required*

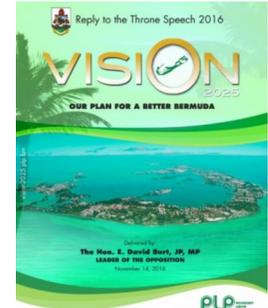
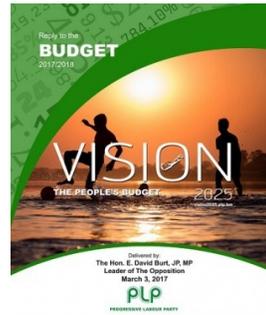


THE PROGRESSIVE TIMES

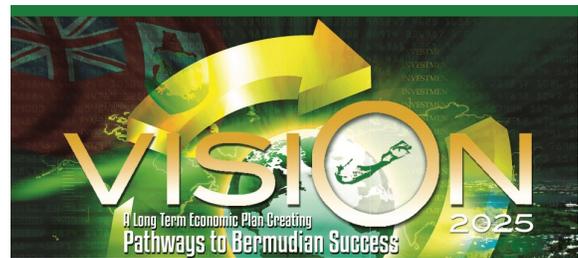
IN THIS EDITION

MP DIALLO RABAIN: SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION	PG. 2/3
LEADER DAVID BURT: ON RACE, ETHNICITY & THE TWO BERMUDAS	PG. 4
MP ROLFE COMMISSIONG: LABOUR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	PG. 5
MP LOVITTA FOGGO: GOOD GOVERNANCE	PG. 6
MP KIM WILSON: MENTAL HEALTH WEEK	PG. 7
IN SOLIDARITY: INT'L WORKERS DAY	PG. 8
DR. ERNEST PEETS JR.: WORKING TOGETHER	PG. 9
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IN THE COMMUNITY	PG. 11
SEN. RENEE MING: MAKE A DIFFERENCE: VOTE	PG. 12
ON THE DOORSTEP WITH THE PARTY ORGANISER	PG. 15

<http://plp.bm/peoplesbudget>



vision2025.plp.bm



THE BERMUDA PROGRESSIVE LABOUR PARTY

Alaska Hall,
16 Court Street,
Hamilton HM 17,
Bermuda

Tel: (441) 292-2264 Email: info@plp.bm Website: plp.bm

