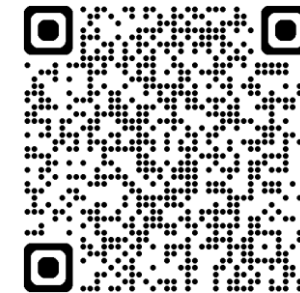


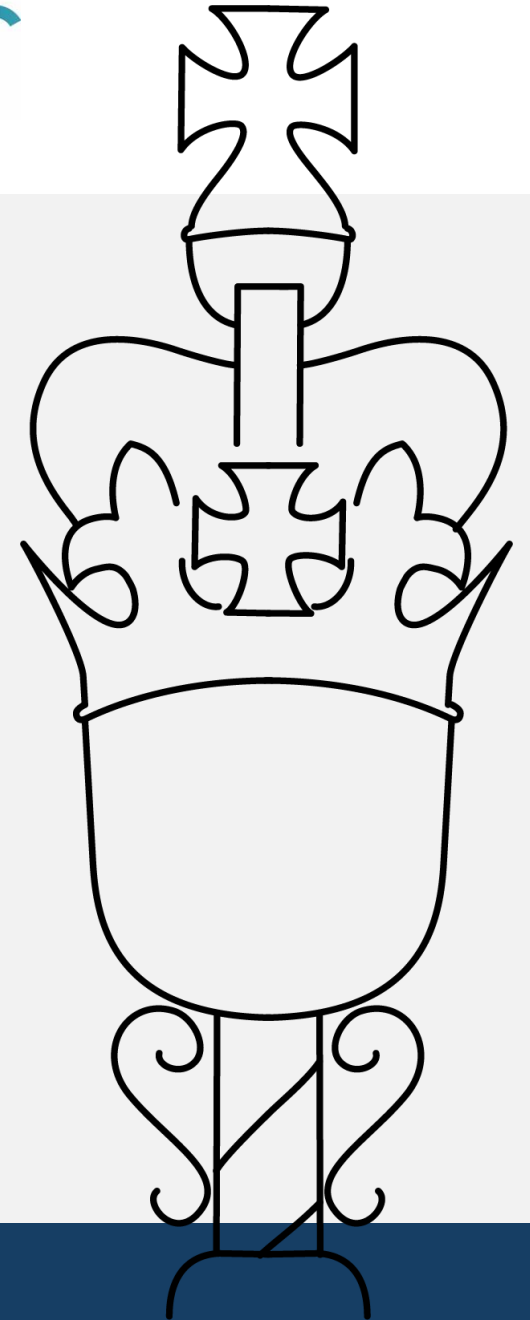


# Workshop C: Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Modernising the Westminster System in Small Jurisdictions.

Room C4.4, ICC,  
09:00-10:30, Tuesday 5 November 2024



FIND OUT MORE HERE.



# Housekeeping



- Note that there will be **official photography and videography** throughout the programme.
- Personal photography is permitted where it does not disrupt or obscure for others, and please keep **mobile phones** to essential use only.
- **Questions and contributions** are permitted only when the Chair opens the floor and should be indicated by a raised hand.
- **Fire exits** are clearly marked, and in the case of an alarm refer to venue staff.
- In the case of illness or incident, alert a member of the venue or secretariat staff, to direct you to the onsite **First Aid** Team.



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” *The CPA Headquarters Secretariat is committed to, and recognises the value of, maintaining environments of mutual respect, courtesy and dignity at all its events and programmes. Any breach of this policy will be treated as a disciplinary matter, which may result in notification of the relevant regulatory authority or refusal from attending future CPA events.*

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- The designated safeguarding officer for the CPA Secretariat is **Sharon Moses**, Head of Human Resources.



# Feedback



- Five minutes have been allocated at the end of every workshop for participants to **complete a short feedback form.**
- Follow the **QR code**, or scroll to the bottom of the Workshop webpage, via the Conference Programme, on the **CPA Website.**
- We request that you make every attempt to do so as your feedback is an important mechanism to guide future programming.



**Workshop C: Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Modernising the Westminster System in Small Jurisdictions**, Room C4.4, ICC, 09:00-10:30, Tuesday 5 November 2024

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**Balancing Tradition and Innovation:**  
**Modernising the Westminster System in Small**  
**Jurisdictions**

Hon Manzoor Nadir M.P.

SPEAKER

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF THE COOPERATE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA

## Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Modernising the Westminster System in Small Jurisdictions

.An overview of challenges and enabling factors in the Westminster system in Guyana.

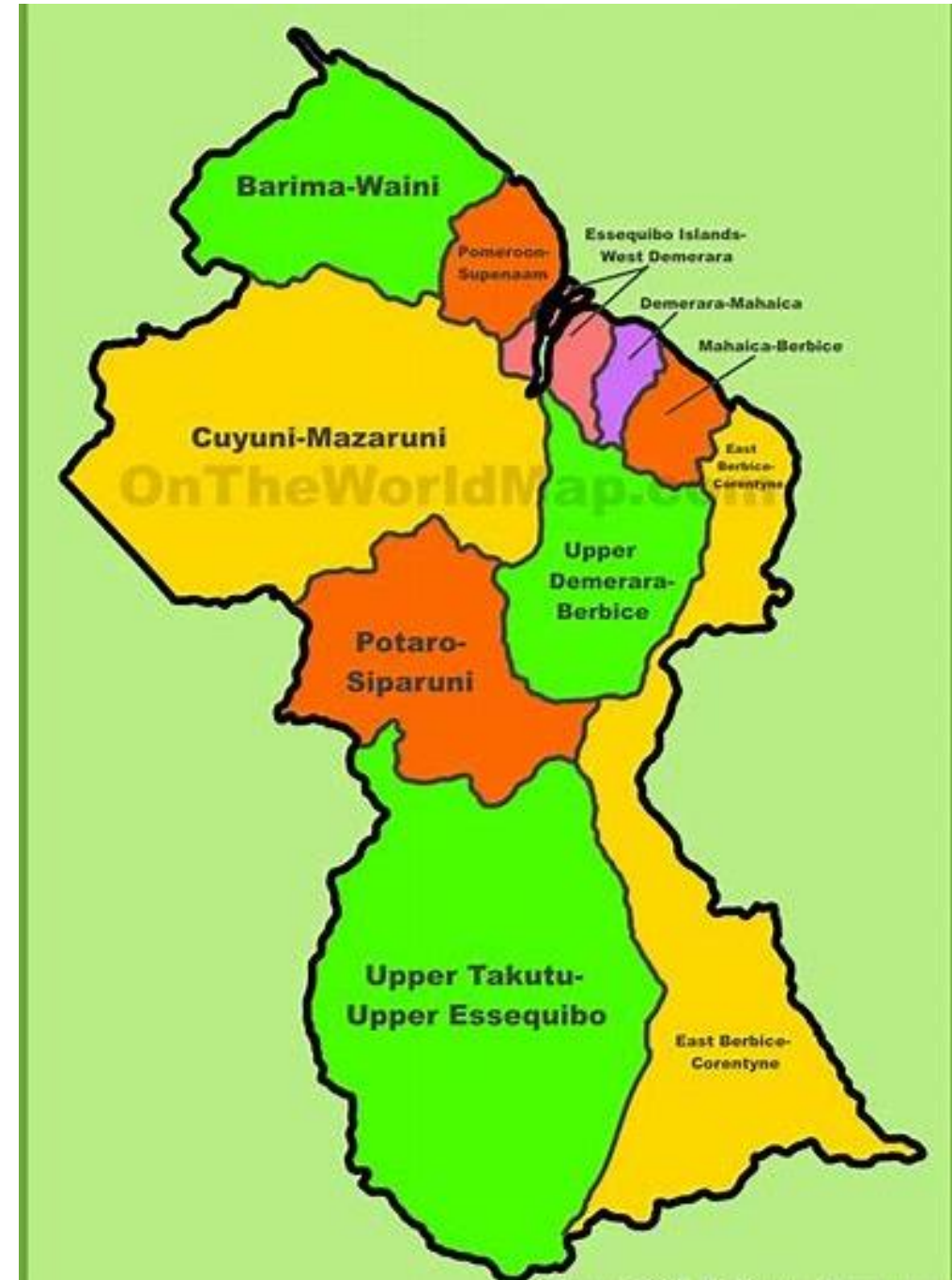
- The experiences of innovation within governance systems to adapt to national needs.
- • Discuss how Guyana legislature integrates and builds consensus with its indigenous nations

# Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Modernising the Westminster System in Small Jurisdictions

Guyana = area – 83, 000 sq mls or 215,000 sq km  
= Pop – approx 800,000 +others 180,000

85% FOREST COVER

- Independence May 26 1966
- Republic Feb 23 1970
- 1980 constitution
  - Introduced the novel system in 1980 with an Executive President
  - 65 seats unicameral house with a Prime Minister who is the first VP
  - President can appoint 4 Technocrat Minister and 2 Parliamentary Secretaries. They have no voting rights
  - We have ten Administrative Regions with 10 regional councils which are like state
  - 2000 MAJOR CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM



# Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Modernising the Westminster System in Small Jurisdictions

- **An overview of challenges and enabling factors in the Westminster system in Guyana.**
- **THE UNIQUE HYBRID SYSTEM WITH SEATS ALLOCATED BY PR ON LISTS**
- **SO OUR SYSTEM WAS CHANGED FROM WHERE THE PM IS HEAD OF GOVERNMENT AND THERE IS A HEAD OF STATE**
- **IN THE CARIBBEAN DOMINICA, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AND BARBADOS ARE ALSO REPUBLICS.**
- **GUYANA'S SYSTEM HAS THE TRADITION OF BEING WESTMINSTER AND INTRODUCING THIS NEW SYSTEM.**

## **WHAT ARE SOME OF THE INNOVATIONS?**

– MORE SAY OF THE MPS IN OVERSIGHT AND MAKING THE EXECUTIVE MORE ACCOUNTABLE

### **1- THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HAS A 4 SECTORAL COMMITTEES**

- SOCIAL SERVICES
- ECONOMIC SERVICES
- FOREIGN RELATIONAS
- NATURAL RESOURCES





# Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Modernising the Westminster System in Small Jurisdictions

## WHAT ARE SOME OF THE INNOVATIONS?

### 2- PARLIAMENTARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- 5 -5- SPKR

### 3 – RIGHTS COMMISSION

- RIGHTS OF THE CHILD
- WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY
- HUMAN RIGHTS

### 4 – ETHNIC RELATIONS COMMISSION

### 5 – SENIOR APPOINTMENTS EG. CHANCELLOR AND COP

### 5- OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL THESE

*COMMISSIONS AND THE AUDITOR GENERAL PRESENT THEIR REPORTS TO THE SPEAKER*



# Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Modernising the Westminster System in Small Jurisdictions

## WHAT ARE SOME OF THE CHALLENGES?

- Parttime Parliamentarians
- CLOSENESS OF RULING MAJORITY
- POPULATING COMMITTEES
- BUDGET
- VENEZUELA BORDER CLAIM
- IMPROVING EFFICIENCY OF ADMINISTRATION
  - INERTIA TO PAPERLESSNESS
  - RENEWAL ENERGY
  - HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
  - DIGITIZATION
  - PUBLIC AWARENESS



# Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Modernising the Westminster System in Small Jurisdictions



# Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Modernising the Westminster System in Small Jurisdictions

The experiences of innovation within governance systems to adapt to national needs.

- LAG IN APPOINTMENTS
- INERTIA TO CHANGE



## Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Modernising the Westminster System in Small Jurisdictions



Discuss how Guyana legislature integrates and builds consensus with its indigenous nations

**OUR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE ARE CALLED THE AMERINDIANS**

- **ALMOST 15% OF THE POPULATION AND OVER 70% OF THE COUNTRY.**
- **WE HAVE**
  - **AMERINDIAN ACT**
  - **MINISTRY OF AMERINDIAN AFFAIRS**
  - **PARTIES HAVE MANY AMERINDIANS IN PARLIAMENT**
  - **POLICY OF PRIOR AND INFORMED CONSULTATION**

# Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Modernising the Westminster System in Small Jurisdictions

**THANK YOU  
FROM  
GUYANA**



# Co-development of Legislation

Balancing Tradition and Innovation:  
Modernizing the Westminster System in Small Jurisdictions



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
LEGISLATIVE  
ASSEMBLY



# Context

- Population: 44,731
  - ~ 50% Indigenous
  - 33 Communities
  - 1.14 million km<sup>2</sup>
- Fully elected government since 1975
- Consensus Government
  - 19 MLAs, no parties
  - Territorial Leadership Committee
  - Executive Council always in minority position
- *Northwest Territories Act*





# Devolution

- Responsibilities for different functions were devolved from the Government of Canada to the Government of the Northwest Territories over many decades
- In 2014, after more than a decade of negotiations, the NWT became the second territory to take over land and resources responsibilities from the Government of Canada
- “Devolve and Evolve”



# Intergovernmental Council

- Devolution Agreement established an Intergovernmental Council for collaboration on matters related to lands and resource management
- Goal is to coordinate on best practice, share capacity, and avoid duplication of efforts



# Land & Resource Management: Legislative Development Protocol

- 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly:  
recommendations under the *Committee Report on the Process Used for Devolution Legislative Initiatives*
- 19<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly: **Legislative Development Protocol** between GNWT and the Intergovernmental Council



# Land & Resource Management: Legislative Development Protocol

- The Protocol formalizes the collaborative development process for NWT land and resource legislation
- Full and meaningful opportunity for all partners to engage and contribute
- Each partner determines their own level of involvement
- Bills drafted under the protocol are reviewed by the Intergovernmental Council Secretariat before introduction



# Process Convention on the Introduction, Consideration & Enactment of Co-developed Legislation

- Legislative Proposals are reviewed by a Committee of all Regular Members
- Complications identified in the process resulted in a convention on the introduction, consideration and enactment of co-developed legislation



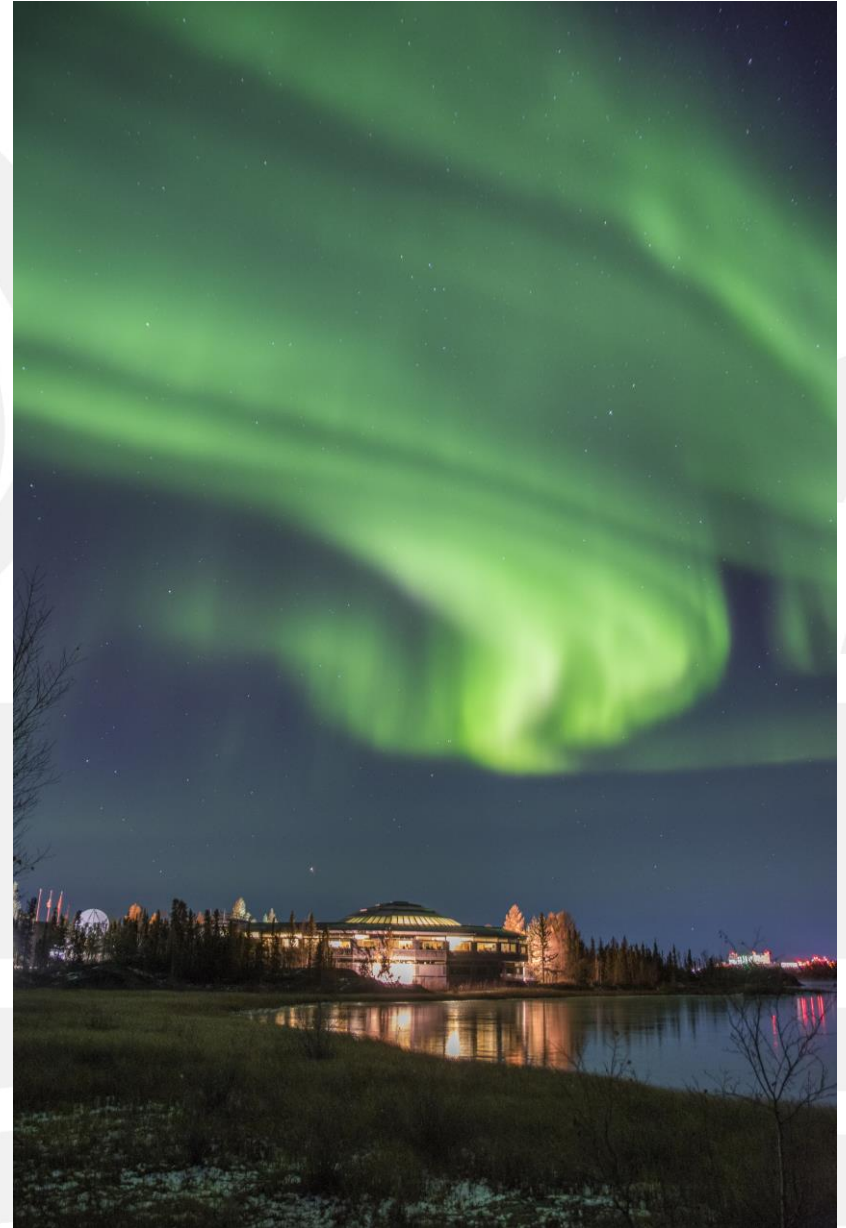
# Process Convention on the Introduction, Consideration & Enactment of Co-developed Legislation

- Procedural differences are noted at:
  - Legislative Proposal
  - Introduction of Bill
  - Standing Committee Review
  - Clause-by-Clause Review
  - Committee of the Whole Review
  - Assent



# Looking Forward

- The *Forest Act* is the only statute developed so far pursuant to the protocol and associated convention
- Interest in expansion of co-development to bills on other topics



# Recommendation

*Parliaments should continue to adapt and innovate to strengthen their governance systems, while ensuring these efforts respect and engage with tradition and local context.*

