



2014 YEAR IN REVIEW MAGAZINE



Includes;
Photos, Press
Releases,
Letters,
Campaigns
and
Much More

2014 Year End Summary

6 Town hall meetings: Equality, Job & Justice

3 Town hall meetings: Immigration Reform

3 Press conferences

2 TV interviews

3 Radio interviews

1 Newspaper interview

8 Public evaluations

2 Marches

1 Youth symposium

1 Facebook page: Bermuda People's Campaign

1 Website : bermudapeoplescampaign.com

Campaign Leaders



Rev. Nicholas Tweed



Bro. Chris Furbert



Bro. Jason Hayward

Organizing Committee



Back Row : Bro Keith Simmons, Rev. Nicollas Tweed, Bro Mike Charles, Bro Chris Furbert, Bro Allen Wilkinson, Bro Jason Hayward **Front Row:** Sis. Molly Burgess, Sis Dorita Rogers, Sis Linda Mienzer



The People's Campaign for Equality, Jobs and Justice is a coalition of concerned people of goodwill who have joined together to give voice to the condition of the country. As a group we are concerned with the growing frustration and mistrust of the political process in view of the continued rise in unemployment, growing gap between the haves and have not's, and the unequal burden of sacrifice being placed on the lowest and the least.

Out of a shared love and concern for the country the coalition feels the need to speak in an effort to reset the moral compass of the island and its leaders around a set of core issues. The people have formulated this Manifesto in order to guide those who represent them so that they cannot continue to implement policies in the name of the people that do not serve the interests of the people.

From its origins, Bermuda has existed under a system driven by mercantile interests, viewing people as a means to a profitable end. The People's Manifesto demand systemic change for the benefit of the people. The narrow confines of the centuries old business-centered system that privileges the narrow interest of the few over the many is incompatible with the enduring, fundamental principles of Equality, Jobs and Justice. Four hundred and five years of history tells us that this cannot be achieved without systemic changes and the establishment of core principles upon which to build a new foundation for the empowerment of the People.

THE PEOPLE'S MANIFESTO

EQUALITY

Every Bermudian should have the opportunity for post secondary education and should not be prevented from attaining education due to lack of funding.

The Government must implement an equitable taxation system that would structure taxation based upon levels of total income and the value of assets and holdings.

Quality healthcare must be accessible and affordable to all.

All Bermudians must have equal treatment under the law: the criminal justice system and the civil legal system must be accessible irrespective of financial well-being and must be administered at all levels in a manner that truly demonstrates that justice is blind.

JOBS

Every person should be entitled to a livable wage in proportion to the cost of living. That is to say, a wage that permits its citizens to meet primary needs of food, shelter, clothing, healthcare and from a primary source of employment.

Full employment for Bermudians must be a national priority.

The Government must hold all employers accountable so that all workers will be respected and afforded the same standards and working conditions.

All workers must have the right to join Unions or form associations to defend their rights.

JUSTICE

The Government must implement a program specifically designed to provide true economic opportunities for persons who historically have been prevented access.

The Government must establish regulatory constraints over the market to ensure that the business community shares the sacrifices and participate in practices that serve the common good recognizing that the economy must serve the people and not the other way around.

Equal rights must be the same for ALL citizens in Bermuda, as such, age cannot be a barrier for access to services, capital, and employment.

The Government does not own public property but holds it in trust on behalf of the people and therefore should exercise proper stewardship that protects the assets of the people against privatization.



MANIFESTO
MANIFESTO
MANIFESTO
MANIFESTO

EQUALITY
JOBS
JUSTICE

Message from the Campaign Leaders

*For the Cause that Lacks Assistance
For the Wrong that needs Resistance
For the Future in the Distance
And the Good that we can do*
(Motto of the Times and Advocate,
Bermuda's first Black Newspaper 1871)

When the centuries behind me like a fruitful land reposed;
When I cling to all the present for the promise that it closed:

When I dipt into the future far as human eye could see;
Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be.
Alfred, Lord Tennyson, Locksley Hall

As the year draws to a close, and we look back at the record of the People's Campaign, while there is still much work to be done, we think that the people of Bermuda who have supported the People's Campaign can look back with a degree of pride in the accomplishments of this fledgling movement. Victor Hugo once said, "nothing is as great as an idea whose time has come," and it is clear that for Bermuda a People's movement, unconstrained by the political posturing, brinkmanship, and jousting that attempts to pass for legislative politics, is an idea whose time has come. The People's Campaign has replaced political expedience with the People's business and in these past months have demonstrated that the people can and must be heard by those who are entrusted to serve them. The People's Campaign has demonstrated that elected representatives can no longer take the support of the people for granted and that they can and must be held accountable for what they do in the people's name irrespective of political party.

The People's Campaign has helped to transform the national debate through the presentation to the Government and the Opposition of the People's Manifesto, which outlined the expectations of the people around the goals of Equality, Jobs, and Justice. These guiding principles have become the watchwords in political debate, and the benchmark in much of the subsequent public debate, this is testament to the impact of the People's Campaign.

The People's Campaign, along with our Union and civic partners, have led the way in terms of providing visionary, reasoned and mature leadership in an environment that is often marred by petty shortsighted partisan politics. On May 1st, along with Our Union partners we led a historic 3000 plus people march which culminated with the presentation of the People's Manifesto to the Premier as the representative of the Government and the Opposition Leader. The people's Campaign has led the way in calling for "Real," "shared sacrifice." Banking reform and greater regulatory control particularly as it relates to lending practices and seniors, a more equitable tax system- the call for people being taxed on all income and assets, equal and just treatment for Bermudian workers, access to education, jobs and health care.

As a result of the attention we brought to bear on banking practices at a press conference held on June 4th, the people's Campaign was able to engage with Clarien Bank, who instituted a policy that discontinued employee mortgage benefits, in a process that created a fair and just resolution to this issue. Similarly, in response to the issues surrounding the granting of PRC's Bermuda status as a result of a "sleeping provision" in the Immigration and Protection Act, the People's Campaign mobilized over 2500 people in 24 hours to march on Cabinet. This led to a negotiated commitment on the part of Government to comprehensive Immigration Reform. We are pleased to inform our supporters that at a meeting held on Friday December the 19th, 2014 the Government re-affirmed its commitment to comprehensive Immigration Reform. In addition, the People's Campaign worked in support of our Union partners, which led to the deferring of the Public Bodies Reform Bill.

At the outset of the People's Campaign we were acutely aware and honest with the people of Bermuda that many of the issues and challenges that we face would not be solved overnight, but require sustained engagement and endurance. We have honored our commitment and remain dedicated to the continued struggle to transform Bermuda into an oasis of Equality, Jobs, and Justice. As is the case with many movements, we have tried to be conservative and forthright with our supporters so as not to create false expectations regarding the time that is needed to bring about substantive change. While we understand and share the frustrations of having to live daily in the face of continued injustice, exclusion, and mistreatment, we understand that as the poet once said, "the mills of the gods grind slowly but exceedingly fine," and so we march forward uplifted by the buoyancy of hope in a people who have awakened from the slumber of apathy and complacency, a people who are on the move, on the march.

We continue to believe that the only thing greater than an idea whose time has come, is a people with a thirst for justice, a people who are willing to stand up, a people who are willing to participate in the molding and shaping of their destiny and so we must remain focused and engaged in continuing to transform Bermuda into a place where people have decent jobs, safe and secure neighborhoods, good education, and access to health care.

We are grateful for the support and the trust that has been placed upon us by the people of Bermuda, but we recognize that we either rise or fall together, we either succeed or we fail together. So brothers and sisters let us remain steadfast and committed to the continued struggle for Equality, Jobs, and Justice, as we continue to struggle, *"For the Cause that Lacks Assistance, For the Wrong that needs Resistance, For the Future in the Distance, And the Good that we can do!"*

In solidarity, Forward Ever, Backward Never, For the Love of the People!

Rev. Nicholas Tweed, Bro. Chris Furbert, Bro. Jason Hayward



The People's Campaign for Equality, Jobs, and Justice is a coalition of concerned people of goodwill who have joined together to give voice to the condition of the country. As a group we are concerned with the growing frustration and mistrust of the political process in view of the continued rise in unemployment, growing gap between the haves and have not's, and the unequal burden of sacrifice being placed on the lowest and least.

DO YOU BELIEVE:

- ✓ **That inadequate finances should not be a barrier to Bermudians going to college, or**
- ✓ **That Businesses in Bermuda place profits over people, or**
- ✓ **That every person should be entitled to a livable wage, or**
- ✓ **That those who receive the highest levels of income should pay an equitable share of tax, or**
- ✓ **That health care should be accessible and affordable to all.**

If you agree to any of the previous points we are asking you to join the People's Campaign for Equality, Jobs and Justice. Come to the community meetings:

Mon., April 21, 2014	Francis Patton Primary School	6:30 PM
Tues., April 22, 2014	Clearwater Middle School	6:30 PM
Thurs., April 24, 2014	T.N.Tatem Middle School	6:30 PM
Mon., April 28, 2014	Sandy's Middle School	6:30 PM
Tues., April 29, 2014	Victor Scott Primary School	6:30 PM
Wed., April 30, 2014	St. Paul Centennial Hall	5:30 PM

These meetings serve as a lead up to the **May Day Rally** and march on:

May 1ST at 12:30PM at Victoria Park.

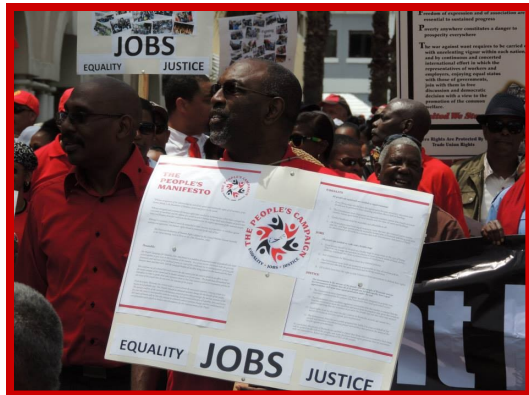
Entertainment from 11:00 a.m. We are asking **All** to come out in the color **RED** and support this historic event.

We plan to present the Government with a **Peoples Manifesto** that will set the standard of expectation outlined by the **People of Bermuda**.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS



MAY DAY 2014 MARCH AND RALLY





Dear Editor,

In April of this year the Bermuda Trade Union Congress met to discuss plans for May 1, commonly known as May Day or International Workers Day. We had been trying to do something significant for many years without much such success. We decided that we would do something that the whole community could rally behind. We invited community representatives to the meeting and the idea of a campaign for equality, jobs and justice was eventually agreed upon.

We discussed that we would first need to get out into the community and hear the challenges that people face first hand after which we would present the Government and the Opposition with a manifesto that outlines the expectation of the people around the areas of equality, jobs, and Justice on May 1.

Under the umbrella of the People's Campaign for Equality, Jobs, and Justice we arranged six town hall meetings over a two-week period. The meeting format was simple, introduce our intention, that being the formulation and presentation of a manifesto to the Government and Opposition and then hear from the people their concerns and thoughts on the topics introduced. What came next was something that I was personally not prepared for.

At every meeting that we attended we heard the hurt that people were experiencing, the peoples' frustrations and their anguish. I witnessed people standing in front of hundreds and crying as they explained the reality of their situations; I heard hopelessness in a country of so much promise; I heard young people who have given up on a fair shot at employment and some who had a desire to leave the island all together.

I listened to the concerns and problems for two weeks and thought if not the People's Campaign who else will speak up on behalf of these persons.

Over the course of those meetings, the Campaign had naturally evolved from a body planning to have a major rally and march to a group devoted to ensuring that those who feel misplaced and left behind have a voice. We are committed to being that voice and pushing for change for the betterment of the Country. I heard, saw and felt the pain it's real.

People call us all sorts of names and put all sorts of labels on us, such is life.

We know who we are and, God knows who we are!

Regards,

Jason Hayward
Peoples Campaign Representative

Public Evaluation



HIGHLIGHTS



“But before we can even begin to move forward, the current level of mistrust between and among members of this Government and its party, between members of this Government and the Opposition, and between members of this Government and the people of this country must be addressed.

When people lose faith in the Government and those who are supposed to be leaders of this country, human rights are put at risk. What we do not want, and simply cannot have is for the streets to become an alternative to viable economic and social solutions for Bermuda.

Our political polarization, both internally and externally is undermining us, as Parliamentarians, to effectively serve the people of this Country. And if we don't start addressing the needs of the people of this country in a very real and genuine way, we are going to see even more organized protests, such as the recent People's Manifesto, organized by Reverend Tweed, from Somerset to St Georges.

This Government must start effectively managing the expectations of those who elected us. People are feeling less and less like their vote matters – that while they may be able to change WHO is in power, they are not able to affect WHAT actions their government takes.”

OBA MP Leah Scott



“While Jetgate has been the focus, work permits continue to be processed in areas where Bermudians have expertise such as masons, plumbers and carpenters. Government, in response to a Parliamentary Question, stated last year that there were 143 masons on work permits.

“While Jetgate took center stage, the bank policies, promised to be addressed by the Finance Minister, continue to see people losing their homes and no adjustment to interest rates.

To make matters worse Capital G is sold and the new owners inform staff that their mortgage interest rate will increase significantly and we have seen a surreal response of the very same Minister on television explaining why this is necessary!

Today- immediately- the country must see the people's business taking front and center. I have been attempting to push the Government into action on a number of fronts since last year. I will continue to do this as a third way and a third voice. In my view Country first is the only approach that is of any value at this point in time.

“We must address jobs, interest rates, home losses, education funding and health care costs. These are the issues that the people of Bermuda want addressed and, using my third voice, I will continue to push the Government in each of these areas.”

FORMER INDEPENDENT MP Terry Lister

Premier Dunkley speaks on the People's Campaign



Premier Dunkley speaks on the People's Campaign

Premier's National Address

June 9th, 2014

"The tremendous outpouring of public support for the People's Campaign, with its theme of equality, jobs and justice, demonstrated issues that matter to the lives of people – and that needs must be met. My colleagues and I are committed to doing just that.

My colleagues and I know Bermuda's recovery is not happening fast enough for people who struggle each day. To them, I say: *"Your fight is our fight. Everything we do is to help you support your families and build a future you can*

believe in."

June 29th, 2014

"After extensively reviewing the document with my Cabinet colleagues, we ultimately agreed that there is no difference between the goals of equality, jobs and justice articulated in the Manifesto and those of the Government.

"To address the situation and make possible the ideals we share, the Government adopted a two-track strategy to grow the economy and to curtail and control government spending. Our aim has been to rebuild the economic foundation and stabilize public finances in ways that restore confidence, opportunity and hope – generating tangible benefits to the people. Despite the challenges we face as a Country, we are confident that we are moving Bermuda in the right direction, towards economic recovery, thus expanding opportunity and full employment for Bermudians. We appreciate that recovery is not happening fast enough for those Bermudians who are still facing hardship. And I shared with the members of the People's Campaign that this Government is pursuing priorities and applying available resources to bring relief to people as fast as possible."

Privatization



On July 18th, 2014 Premier Michael Dunkley tabled the "**For Information**" **Public Bodies Reform Bill 2014** in the House of Assembly for public review and discussion. We encourage all members of the Public to visit www.gov.bm and review the Bill. There are elements in this Bill that are in direct violation of the People's Campaign manifesto.

We support the notion that Government does not own public property but holds it in trust on behalf of the people and we believe that the OBA should exercise proper stewardship that protects the assets of the people. We are fundamentally opposed to any plans to privatize and/or mutualize any public assets. Any unilateral decision by the Government to privatize public

assets will be considered to be crossing a redline.

WHY PUBLIC EVALUATIONS?

The People's Campaign will seek to assess the Government & the Opposition through public evaluations. Public evaluation will allow the People's Campaign to assess how effective those who sit in the House of Parliament are in addressing the issues raised by the people. In the Months of May to December, we reviewed Ministerial statements, statements from the Opposition, articles in the media and public reports. We reviewed them with an aim to produce a summary of our elected officials' activities. This process will be used by the People's Campaign to keep the people of Bermuda conscious of the decisions that are being made and how they are aligned with the People's expectations. Public Evaluations can be found online at the below address:

Find us on the web @ <http://bermudapeoplescampaign.com/>

Like us on Facebook: Bermuda People's Campaign

Civic Engagement

Civic Engagement

"Civic engagement means working to make a difference in the civic life of our communities and developing the combination of knowledge, skills, values and motivation to make that difference. It means promoting the quality of life in a community, through both political and non-political processes."

Civic Responsibility and Higher Education

Civic Responsibility

"A morally and civically responsible individual recognizes himself or herself as a member of a larger social fabric and therefore considers social problems to be at least partly his or her own; such an individual is willing to see the moral and civic dimensions of issues, to make and justify informed moral and civic judgments, and to take action when appropriate."

Civic Responsibility and Higher Education

Change Agent

A 'change agent' is defined as someone who engages deliberately to alter the behaviour of the culture, practices and/or policies of an organization or community

Why Social Change?

The structure of society rests on laws, policies, legal systems and political structures. As a society, we are governed by laws which can be made and changed by the Government. For us as union, changing structures in society through government is crucial. This means that electoral politics, political effectiveness and political power have always played a key role in the union. We fight for governments and laws to reflect the social agenda of workers.

**create
VALUE**



**The People's Campaign
For Equality, Jobs and
Justice Present....**

**St Paul's
Centennial Hall
August 16th 2014
9:30 am — 3:00 pm**

**Youth Empowerment
SYMPOSIUM**

Presentation Modules:

- Education and Training
- Community Involvement
- Entrepreneurship
- Civic Engagement

**Oh Yes! IT'S
FREE**

**The Symposium is aimed at members of the Community between the
ages of 16-35 years of age. However, all members of the Public are
invited to attend this event.**

Please RSVP to info@bermudapeoplescampaign.com

PRESS CONFERENCE BERMUDA'S BANKS



The People's Campaign for Equality, Jobs and Justice stand before you today to raise awareness to concerns and issues surrounding policies and practices of our Commercial Banks. The People's Campaign recognizes that banks play a vital role in Bermuda's economy and to the community. They are responsible for making funds available to consumers and businesses for investments. However, the Banks must embrace that households are amongst the principal sources of loanable funds in the financial markets and are amongst the leading borrowing sectors in the financial system. Our banks need to build the confidence of the community by doing all that they can to be empathetic to the needs of its customers and their employees.

The People's Campaign is alarmed with several practices and policies utilized by the commercial banking institutions namely HSBC Bermuda, The Bank of N.T. Butterfield and Clarien. Examples of these include:

1. Bank's redundancy policy
2. Reduction of mortgage benefit for staff
3. No interest on savings vs increase admin fees
4. Lack of willingness to assist borrowers
5. Lack of willingness to assist employees whom have received pay reductions
6. Discriminatory lending practices against seniors

IN THE NEWS

Check out
the latest
and what
we've been
up to!



March Called For Tomorrow Over PRC Matter

[Updated] The People's Campaign and Bermuda Trade Union Congress are calling for people to join them tomorrow [July 25] at Victoria Park at 12 noon, where they will make their way to the Cabinet Office building and "let our voices be heard." This announcement comes after Minister Michael Fahy said that the Ministry is withdrawing the... [Read more of this article](#)



PC Call For Commission of Inquiry Into Property

The People's Campaign has called for the "immediate establishment of a People's Review Commission of Inquiry into the historic losses of citizen property," saying the House of Assembly operates with a mandate from the people of Bermuda and they "neither need nor should they seek consent from a non-elected servant of the interests... [Read more of this article](#)



Live Blog: People's Campaign March Underway

[Updated] The "People's Campaign for Equality, Jobs and Justice" March & Rally is getting underway today [May 1], with people gathering at Victoria Park. The Campaign was launched last month, with flyer being passed out at the launch saying, "The People's Campaign for Equality, Jobs, and Justice is a coalition of concerned people of goodwill... [Read more of this article](#)



People's Campaign March To Be Held Tomorrow

[Updated] The "People's Campaign for Equality, Jobs and Justice" will hold their March & Rally tomorrow [May 1], with entertainment starting at 11.00am at Victoria Park. The Campaign was launched earlier this month, with flyer being passed out at the launch saying, "The People's Campaign for Equality, Jobs, and Justice is a coalition... [Read more of this article](#)



People's Campaign For Equality, Jobs & Justice

[Updated with video] The "People's Campaign for Equality, Jobs and Justice" was launched today [Apr 17], with a press conference held outside City Hall in Hamilton. Committee members include Reverend Nicholas Tweed, Keith Simmons, BIU President Chris Furbert, BPSU President Jason Hayward, Dr Michael Charles, Linda Meinzer, Molly Burgess,... [Read more of this article](#)



People's Campaign: "No BackDoor To Status"

The People's Campaign for Equality, Jobs and Justice will be launching the "No BackDoor to Status" campaign on Friday July 18th, and are asking all supporters to wear red as a show of solidarity. The People's Campaign previously issued a statement calling upon the Government to take action regarding the legal "loophole" ... [Read more of this article](#)



Government Responds To People's Campaign

The Cabinet Office advised today that Government has formally responded to the representatives of the People's Campaign. In correspondence to the Principles of the organisation, the Premier Michael Dunkley acknowledged the People's Manifesto [PDF] and highlighted what Government is doing to address the economy, unemployment, education, justice,... [Read more of this article](#)



People's Campaign May 2014 Public Evaluation

The People's Campaign for Equality, Jobs & Justice released a "Public Evaluation" for May 2014, which they said seeks to assess the Government and the Opposition through public evaluations. "Public evaluation will allow the People's Campaign to evaluate how effective those who sit in the House of Parliament are in addressing... [Read more of this article](#)



People's Campaign Calls For Review Of Banks

[Updated with video + Premier's comments] The People's Campaign hosted a press conference today [June 5] to "challenge the government to take action in regards to the policies and practices of the banking sector in Bermuda." The People's Campaign said they recognize that banks play a vital role in Bermuda's economy and... [Read more of this article](#)



People's Campaign October Public Evaluation

The People's Campaign have released their Public Evaluation for the month of October, which seeks to assess the Government and the Opposition through public evaluations. Commenting on pre-certification, the report said, "Whilst the People's Campaign recognizes the need to cut health costs, we are not convinced that pre-certification will reduce... [Read more of this article](#)



People's Campaign's Latest Public Evaluation

The People's Campaign have released their Public Evaluation for the month of August, which seek to assess the Government and the Opposition through public evaluations. Commenting on the 90-day extension to the MOU granted to The Bermudiana Beach Resort, the People's Campaign said "the selling of this prime piece of real estate contravenes... [Read more of this article](#)



People's Campaign Public Evaluation For July

The People's Campaign for Equality, Jobs & Justice has released their latest public evaluation for the month of July, which they said serves to allow the People's Campaign to "evaluate the effectiveness of those who sit in the House of Parliament are in addressing the issues raised by the people." The People's Campaign... [Read more of this article](#)



If you would like to be on the
People's Campaign's mailing
list please send an email to:

thepeoplescampaignforejj@gmail.com



EQUALITY JOBS JUSTICE

