



**GJDYC**  
**Global Jamaica Diaspora  
Youth Council**

**INAUGURAL GJDYC ONLINE  
YOUTH SUMMIT  
15TH-20TH JUNE 2020**

**PROGRAMME**



**INAUGURAL GJDYC ONLINE YOUTH SUMMIT  
15<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2020**

CONVENED BY THE GLOBAL JAMAICA DIASPORA YOUTH COUNCIL

# PROGRAMME

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## SUMMIT THEME

The theme for the Inaugural GJDYC Online Youth Summit is “Leading Beyond COVID-19: Industries, Impact and Innovations”.

The theme is an invitation to young people and youth leaders within the Diaspora and Jamaica, to address the consequences of the COVID-19 contagion while showcasing the a-typical thinking and actions that are re-shaping many industry operations and community functions.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of the Inaugural GJDYC Online Youth Summit is to act as a catalyst for meaningful discussions that drive change and shape policy and advocacy efforts post COVID-19 and align with the mission and objectives of the GJDYC.

## OBJECTIVES

The Summit has three major objectives.

1. Establish a more strategic relationship with the Jamaican Diaspora, which will bring benefits both to Jamaica’s national development and its global community through productive, mutual and sustainable engagement.
2. Provide the opportunity for youth and young professionals within the Diaspora and Jamaica who are thought and industry leaders, to present innovative solutions and actionable steps to combat the issues presented by COVID-19.
3. Align with the draft National Diaspora Policy, specifically thematic area 7, related to goals 1 and 8, which focus on the engagement of Diaspora youth and young adults.

## SUMMIT OUTCOMES: POST SUMMIT ACTIONS

Inaugural GJDYC Online Youth Summit has four **Expected Outcomes**. These are initiatives that the GJDYC will commit to implement after the Summit to support Jamaica’s quest for sustainable development.

1. To develop policy and advocacy initiatives using the recommendations presented by each industry panel.
2. To increase visibility and profile of the GJDYC.
3. To increase membership engagement among young people in the Jamaican Diaspora.
4. To advance and strengthen partnerships and sponsorships with organisations and entities in Jamaica and other parts of the world.

## PROGRAMME SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Day/Date	Session	Time EST
<b>Day 1 - Monday</b> <b>June 15 2020</b>	Tourism & Travel Religion	11am - 1pm 2 pm - 4 pm
<b>Day 2 - Tuesday</b> <b>Diaspora Day</b> <b>June 16 2020</b>	Entrepreneurship, Business & Finance Remarks by Senator the Hon. Kamina Johnson Smith Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Technology & Innovation	11am - 1pm 1pm- 1:45pm 2 pm - 4 pm
<b>Day 3 - Wednesday</b> <b>June 17 2020</b>	Agriculture & Manufacturing Environment	11am - 1pm 2 pm - 4 pm
<b>Day 4 - Thursday</b> <b>June 18 2020</b>	Remarks by Hon. Alando Terrelonge, MP, Minister of State, Ministry of Education, Youth and Information Education Outreach & Advocacy	10:15am-11am 11am - 1pm 2 pm - 4 pm
<b>Day 5 – Friday</b> <b>June 19 2020</b>	Health Social Services & Social Entrepreneurship	11am - 1pm 2 pm - 4 pm
<b>Day 6 - Saturday</b> <b>June 20 2020</b>	Arts & Creatives Live Entertainment	11am - 1pm 6 pm - 8pm

### DAY 1 | MONDAY

#### SESSION 1: TOURISM & TRAVEL

**THEME:** Safety, Assurance & Resilience: Creating a Model to Shape Sustainable Tourism & Travel

Sustainability has been a buzz word in tourism for the last few decades, however the progress has been slower than expected. COVID-19 has created a new context for the US\$2.9 trillion global industry. Destination assurance is a term that has been crafted by the Ministry of Tourism, Jamaica and implemented through the Tourism Development Product Company (TPDCO) where the focus includes a safe, secure and seamless tourism product. Embedded in this is resilience, sustainability and the delivery of the destination’s brand promise. The discussion hopes to evaluate the state of tourism and travel pre-COVID and explore the opportunities to create sustainable tourism and secure travel where people feel more connected to the destination and industry. **How can tourists get greater assurance from travel and tourism providers? How can the travel and tourism industry become more resilient in light of COVID-19?**

**MODERATOR:** Ms. Elecia Bethune, PhD Student, Tourism Resilience

**PANELLISTS:** Ms. Stacian Virtue, Tourism Professional

Ms. Emmanuella Owens, Sales and Marketing Manager, Jamaica Inn

**Mr. Stefan Grant**, Founder, Noir BnB  
**Mrs. Chalene Roye-Myrie**, Owner, Krafted by Design

## **SESSION 2: RELIGION**

**THEME:** The Church for the Times: Reflections, Challenges & Shaping the way Forward

The Church is a respected and resilient institution, which has withstood many crises for centuries. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic churches worldwide have found innovative means to provide support for their respective congregations and local communities. The pandemic has impacted the physical and mental well-being of congregants and their ability to worship in a single location. In addition, COVID-19 has placed a strain on the church's operational and financial capacity. This session will explore the ways in which the Church has engaged in Ministry and Missions within the context of the novel Coronavirus pandemic. **What can be expected of the church considering the impact of COVID-19? What historic lessons and innovative approaches can be utilised in managing the effects of the pandemic while continuing to serve the community?**

**MODERATOR:** **Mr. Antonio Dawson**, Minister of Religion & Psychological Therapist

**PANELLISTS:** **Mrs. Kacy Garvey**, News Host, Mercy & Truth Ministries TV Station

**Dr. Joel Brown**, Psalmist, Advocate for Faith & Identity

**Mr. Nicholas Robertson**, Minister of Religion

**Pastor Kavan Allen**, Youth Pastor, Fellowship Tabernacle

## **DAY 2 | TUESDAY**

### **DIASPORA DAY**

#### **SESSION 1: ENTREPRENEURSHIP, BUSINESS & FINANCE**

**THEME:** Developing Adaptive Capacity in Business and Finance

The business sector experienced a severe contraction since the onset of the COVID-19 contagion. Challenges to the operational model of most businesses and financial institutions resulted in new considerations for methods of working and productivity. This includes the creation, expansion and execution of work from home policies, with a number of organizations choosing to remain fully in this mode for the foreseeable future. Small and Medium-size Enterprises (SMEs) are one of the subgroups that have been greatly disadvantaged, however, the digitization agenda has been integral to advancing "new normal" discussions. **How will the financial sector, businesses, entrepreneurs and capital markets adapt**

**in light of COVID-19 pandemic? What partnerships, policies or new systems can be implemented to safeguard entrepreneurs and SMEs while stimulating the economy?**

**MODERATOR:** Ms. Sophronia McKenzie, Consultant & Project Manager, WhiteOwl

**PANELLISTS:** Ms. Melanie Wynter, Head of Business Development, St. Elizabeth Sloane & Co Ltd  
Mr. Julian Morrison, Investment Analyst, Proven Wealth Ltd  
Mr. Leighton Smith, CRO, Victoria Mutual Building Society in the UK and Diaspora  
Ms. Tahlia Gray, Founder, Sheer Chemistry

### **DIASPORA DAY REMARKS FROM MINISTER JOHNSON SMITH**

**THEME:** The GJDYC: An Innovative Model for engagement of Diaspora young leaders in the COVID-19 era and beyond

**Remarks | 1pm: Senator the Hon. Kamina Johnson Smith**

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

### **SESSION 2: TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION**

**THEME:** Unlocking the Potential of Technology and Innovation

Technology is the vehicle that drives innovation and development. It is also a useful component in arriving at solutions to obstacles that businesses face. The discussion will explore how technology and innovation have been leveraged in combating the COVID-19 pandemic and explore the role, trends and future of technology and innovation in response to increasing efficiency and productivity in our world. **How do we maximize the role of technology and innovation in responding to the needs and problems that have arisen during the pandemic?**

**MODERATOR:** Mr. Odayne Haughton, Asst Director of Information Security, Bank of Jamaica

**PANELLISTS:** Ms. Terri-Ann Grant, Director, Network Design & GIS Operations, Jurassic Fiber Ltd  
Mr. Larren Peart, CEO, Blue Dot  
Mr. Nicholas Kee, Co-Founder & Executive Director, Next Gen Creators

## **DAY 3 | WEDNESDAY**

### **SESSION 1: AGRICULTURE & MANUFACTURING**

**THEME:** The Value Proposition of Agriculture & Manufacturing: Bolstering Economies and Enhancing Food Security and Sustainability

The agricultural and manufacturing industry has created an environment for individuals and businesses to thrive and create wealth for themselves, their families and communities. The production of key local goods towards target markets increases agricultural output, food security, access to financing, utilization of appropriate technology and infrastructure development. The manufacturing industry has mobilized to respond to the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic through the development of goods and services for the healthcare industry and community. This discussion will analyse the challenges within both industries, provide solutions, and highlight opportunities for recovery, response and renewal. **How has the shifts in agriculture advanced innovation, food security, technology and financing since the pandemic? How can manufacturers remain operational and resilient in light of the demands since the onset of COVID-19?**

**MODERATOR:** Mr. Alexander Harris, Owner, ByOur Fruit Farm

**PANELLISTS:** Mr. Randy McLaren, Managing Director & Chief Dreammaker, Bresheh

Dr. Lisa Soares, Blue Economy Specialist, CERMES - UWI

Ms. Daniela Doyle, Project Manager, Farm Credibility

Mr. Akeem Gardner, Co-Founder & CEO, Atlas 360 Incorporated

## **SESSION 2: ENVIRONMENT**

**THEME:** Climate Action: New Era, New Mandate

COVID-19 has allowed for temporary reprieve in the environment. Lower carbon emissions is a benefit to nature, however, reduced movement has social and economic consequences. Climate action is a vital response to environmental concerns. It should also include the preventative steps in design and delivery of smart cities to minimize pollution and create a healthier and efficient society. This discussion will convene environmental advocates with crosscutting perspectives that assess the socio-economic and cultural impact of disasters like COVID-19. The session will explore the role of the Jamaican Diaspora in catalyzing international partnerships and knowledge transfers to encourage the coordination and connection of resources to local climate and sustainability needs. **How can education and initiatives encourage greater individual commitment through practical actions and strengthen government efforts to advance climate action in line with Vision 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals? How can spatial design be used in the development of sustainable cities?**

**MODERATOR:** Ms. Dainalyn Swaby, Climate Change Advocate

**PANELLISTS:** Ms. Danni Washington, Environmental Science Communicator, Big Blue and You

Ms. Eleanor Terrelonge, Founder, Our Footprint JA

**Mr. Stephen Snider**, MSc Student in Development Practices, Harvard University

**Mr. Tarik Dixon**, Spatial Planner, Head of GIS Network & Design Op, Digicel Group

## **DAY 4 | THURSDAY**

**THEME:** Youth advocacy and outreach: Influencing policy and decision making

**Remarks:** **Hon. Alando Terrelonge, MP**

Minister of State, Ministry of Education, Youth and Information

### **SESSION 1: EDUCATION**

**THEME:** Developing a Flexible Education System: Responding to the Needs of Students in the COVID-19 era

Education has been one of the hardest impacted segments in many countries as students and teachers have either transitioned to an online space or formal education has been severely curtailed. The session will highlight the inadequacies of education systems in response to the impact of COVID-19 and how these can be addressed through reform and innovation. **What role can governments and educators play in ensuring that students are supported in navigating challenges during and after COVID-19? What new tools and systems can be introduced to facilitate education reform and successful academic achievement during the pandemic?**

**MODERATOR:** **Mr. Everton Rattray**, President, Jamaica Union of Tertiary students

**PANELLISTS:** **Ms. Simone Russell**, Educator, City of Pembroke Pines Charter School

**Ms. Donnalee Donaldson**, Country Director, Educate! Rwanda

**Mr. David Kennedy**, Educator

**Mr. Gordon Swaby**, CEO, EduFocal

### **SESSION 2: OUTREACH & ADVOCACY**

**THEME:** Navigating Challenging Times through Partnership Development and Community Initiatives

This pandemic has brought along challenges, a sense of community and renewal of relationships. Advocates and change makers who have served others while adapting to change in incredibly difficult times are heroes. Despite the limitations, they continue to make a difference in their communities. The discussions will seek to explore practical ways of strengthening interconnectivity and build stronger networks that will allow for great resilience, advocacy and support to those vulnerable in society. **How**

can we ensure that advocates, change makers, and organizations are equipped to provide assistance given the increased demands locally and globally?

**MODERATOR:** Mrs. Tanesha Westcarr, Chairperson, Global Jamaica Diaspora Youth Council

**PANELLISTS:** Mr. Sujae Boswell, Advocate, Youth Advisory Council Jamaica

Ms. Lyndsay Archer, Founder, Roots Strong Non-Profit

Mr. Abraham Simmonds, Founder, JAYECAN

Mr. Tijani Christian, Chairperson, Commonwealth Youth Council

## DAY 5 | FRIDAY

### SESSION 1: HEALTH

**THEME:** Improving our Health and Well-being in the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic

The current COVID-19 pandemic has served as a stark reminder that both our physical and mental health are of utmost importance. Our medical frontline workers have gone above and beyond their duty within a system with limited resources. The discussions will seek to analyze the health approaches and measures undertaken by various regions; explore the gaps within the public health system, propose how countries can increase their level of co-operation in bilateral and multilateral context, as well as examine the increasing role of technology in healthcare delivery. **What can be implemented to minimize the further spread of COVID-19? How can we continue to make strides towards a healthier society as the virus looms?**

**MODERATOR:** Dr. Jay-Sheree Allen, Board-Certified Family Medicine Physician, Regional Leader, GJDYC

**PANELLISTS:** Dr. David Walcott, Founder of NovaMed

Ms. Tiffani Walters, Medical Student, COVID-19 Call Center

Dr. Stephen Henry, Sports Medicine Physician, University Miami Athletics and The Miami Marlins

Dr. Che Bowen, CEO, MD Link

### SESSION 2: SOCIAL SERVICES & SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**THEME:** Advancing Solutions, Creating Opportunities through Social Services & Social Entrepreneurship

The fields of social services and social entrepreneurship pivoted as the demand to provide support and services in the community increased due to COVID-19. The pandemic further revealed the challenges in

availability of services and innovative solutions for those affected as well as biases in key areas such as homelessness, mental health, and advocacy.

This session will examine how social entrepreneurship has become a key element in volunteerism and civic engagement. It will also address the potential for social entrepreneurs to make a difference where deficits in funding and services have occurred. **How can persons in various disciplines impact the social services field? What role can businesses play in offering solutions and support for the ongoing issues?**

**MODERATOR:** Ms. Tishauna Mullings, Founder and Manager, NexxStepp Educational Services

**PANELLISTS:** Ms. Makeeba Foster, Case Manager, Social Services- Calgary, Regional Leader, GJDYC

Mr. Caleb Jackson, Founder, Operation Help the People

Ms. Shanea Kerry Oldham, Founder, Your Life More Life

Ms. Kashane Denton, Program Supervisor, Salvation Army, Regional Leader, GJDYC

## DAY 6 | SATURDAY

### SESSION 1: THE CREATIVE INDUSTRY

**THEME:** New Strategies for Empowering and Broadcasting the Jamaican Culture

COVID-19 has brought to light the importance of being flexible and creating new opportunities in the areas of the arts and entertainment. In light of the current pandemic, it is even more critical to explore how the Jamaican culture can be sustained both at home and in the Diaspora. This specifically relates to creative industries such as the visual and culinary arts, music, dance, drama and film. Specific focus will include how technology is used for networking and establishing initiatives to engage and stimulate audiences. **How can we promote, preserve and engage our cultural practices in the Diaspora?**

**MODERATOR:** Ms. Amaya Lewis, Professional Dancer & Choreographer, Regional Leader, GJDYC

**PANELLISTS:** Mr. Akeem Mignott, Actor, Associate Director, Jamaica Youth Theatre

Ms. Diane Allen, Development & Communications Assoc, LACER Afterschool Programs

Mr. Caniggia Palmer, Artist Management

Mr. Ibrahim "IB" Konteh, Communications and Marketing Specialist, Strictly 2K - Best of the 2000s and Soca Forever

### **SESSION 2: LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

A live entertainment segment to end the summit. A selection of DJs, singers and other entertainers.