



Unit 4-107
Governors Square
23 Lime Tree Bay Ave.
West Bay Road
PO Box 1000
Grand Cayman KY1-1102
Cayman Islands

T 345 949 8090 F 345 949 0220
info@caymanchamber.ky
caymanchamber.ky
leadershipcayman.ky
cayshop.ky
chamberpension.ky
showmethemoney.ky

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The Cayman Islands Chamber of Commerce was established in 1965 and is a non-profit organisation that exists to Support, Promote and Protect Cayman business and the wider community. We proudly represent nearly 700 businesses and associations from every major industry sector.

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Contact: Tiffany Dixon-Ebanks – tiffany.ebanks@caymanchamber.ky

Leadership Cayman Gets To Know Government Officials

Leadership Cayman (LC) held its sixth seminar of the 2013 programme on Wednesday, April 10 at the facilities of the Government Administration Building. The seminar was entitled “Cayman Islands Government” and was sponsored by Certified General Accountants Association of the Caribbean, also known as **CGA Caribbean**.

For the tour, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Mary Lawrence, MBE, provided an information session on the history of the Cayman Islands Government and a tour of the inner workings of the Legislative Assembly Building. Participants met with senior officials in the Legislative Assembly and were treated to a wonderful, and very colourful explanation of many of the pictures and artifacts in the building.

Panellists included Hon. Franz Manderson, MBE, Deputy Governor; Karin Thompson, Chair of the Commission on Standards in Public Life; Alastair Swarbrick, Auditor General. During the seminar, participants had the opportunity to meet and get to know these leaders and learn about the role Government has in shaping the cultural, social, and economic future. The participants learned about some of the more significant issues and challenges being faced by Government and what the senior bureaucrats are doing to address them.

Hon. Franz Manderson was pleased to have been invited to join the group and commented on the pending transitions after the next upcoming elections. He said, *“I am looking forward to working closely with the incoming government to ensure that we are more transparent and accountable for the public monies we collect and spend. While we have been improving, I admit that we can do a better job in the future.”*

Speaking about the standards both in terms of value and the general reputation of the civil service both Karin Thompson and Alastair Swarbrick gave commentary and added respectively to the discussions.

“My Commission has a significant role to play protecting the reputation of the Cayman Islands Government; getting the legislation in place and resources necessary to carry out the remit of the Commission on Standards in Public Life should be one of the new Government’s top priorities.” **Ms. Karin Thompson**, Chair of the Commission on Standards in Public Life



"The government needs to consider implementing more of the recommendations in my reports. Those recommendations provide an opportunity for the government to get better value-for-money in the future".

Mr. Alastair Swarbrick, Auditor General.

The seminar was organised by class members Lynn Merizalde-Orobio and Joanne Lawson, who worked under the tutelage of Seminar Mentor and past LC graduate, Martin Ruben. The organising team was satisfied with the outcome of the seminar discussions.

"The untempered approach by the panellists and our fellow classmates made our discussions overflow with candor and honesty. A road seemingly not often travelled but richly embraced." **Lynn Merizalde-Orobio**, Class member and Director of Finance & Administration, KPMG.

To become involved in the Leadership Cayman programme either as a sponsor or future candidate, persons may contact Tiffany Dixon-Ebanks at tiffany.ebanks@caymanchamber.ky

About Leadership Cayman: The Chamber's Leadership Cayman programme (LC) was developed in answer to a need to ensure men and women of all types of backgrounds could access the information and experience to help them develop as leaders within our community. The six-month programme is designed to allow participants a deeper understanding of social, economic, business and political issues affecting the community, whilst they develop their own personal leadership styles and community spirit. Class members interact with diverse, high-level community leaders and decision makers by organising and attending a series of seminars and retreats in areas ranging from business, government, education, media, social services, criminal justice, immigration, culture and more. A trip to the Sister Islands also introduces the group to some of the unique issues facing Cayman Brac and Little Cayman. Meeting typically every other Wednesday of the month (5:00 – 9:00 p.m.), the LC group forges strong friendships as they take this inspiring journey together.

