



## SENATE

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### MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A SITTING OF THE SENATE HELD AT THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, MT. WHELDALE, ST. GEORGE ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2026

#### PRESENT

Madam President

Senator the Honourable Dr. Dessima Williams

*in the Chair*

Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas	Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture (Leader of Government's Business)
Senator the Honourable David Evlyn Andrew	Minister for Education
Senator the Honourable Quinc Britton	Parliamentary Secretary within the Ministry for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture with Responsibility for Culture
Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph	Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs
Senator the Honourable Gloria Ann Thomas	Minister for Social & Community Development, Housing and Gender Affairs (Social Security)

Senator the Honourable Norland Cox	Opposition Member of the Senate (Deputy President)
Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis	Member of the Senate (Labour Representative)
Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair	Member of the Senate (Farmers' and Fishers' Representative)

### **ABSENT**

Senator the Honourable Seville Francis	Parliamentary Secretary within the Ministry for Youth and Sports  (Excuse tendered)
Senator the Honourable Dr. Myanna Charles	Opposition Member of the Senate  (Excuse tendered)
Senator the Honourable Dwight Horsford	Opposition Member of the Senate  (Excuse tendered)
Senator the Honourable Salim Rahaman	Member of the Senate (Business Representative)  (Excuse tendered)

**The Sitting of the Senate began at 9:15 a.m.**

### **PRAYERS**

Prayers were led by Madam President.

### **OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OR AFFIRMATION OF A NEW SENATOR**

There was no Oath of Allegiance or Affirmation of a new Senator.

### **MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL**

There were no Messages from the Governor-General.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MADAM PRESIDENT

### **Madam President made the following announcements:**

- Extended Easter week greetings and highlighted its significance in the Christian faith.
- Four Senators submitted apologies for absence:
  - Sen. the Hon. Dr. Myanna Charles (schedule conflict)
  - Sen. the Hon. Dwight Horsford (Business travel)
  - Sen. the Hon. Salim Rahman (Business travel)
  - Sen. the Hon. Seville Francis (unforeseen circumstances)
- Congratulations were extended to Grenada for hosting the 53rd CARIFTA Games.
- Condolences were expressed on the passing of Dr. Roland Purcell, who was recognized as a prominent physician serving Grenadians both locally and in Brooklyn, New York.
- Reported attending the 25th anniversary of ParlAmericas in Washington, D.C. Discussions focused on hemispheric cooperation and inter-American dialogue. A final report from the meeting to be presented.

Attendance at a Women's History Month luncheon hosted by Aisha Braveboy, a Grenadian-American leader, identified as County Executive of Prince George's County, Maryland. It was a gathering of over 500 professional women in Maryland.

## CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Sittings of the Senate held at the Parliament Building, Mt. Wheldale, St. George, on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2026 at 09:00 a.m., be taken as read.

**Question proposed.**

**Question put and agreed to.**

**Minutes taken as read.**

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Sittings of the Senate held at the Parliament Chamber, Mt. Wheldale, St. George on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2026 at 09:00 a.m., be confirmed.

**Question proposed.**

**Question put and agreed to.**

**Minutes confirmed.**

### **PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS**

There were no Petitions.

### **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES**

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved that the following Papers and Reports be laid:

1. Marketing and National Importing Board Financial Statement for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021;
2. Fiscal Resilience Oversight Committee (FROC) 2025 Annual Report;
3. Fiscal Resilience Oversight Committee (FROC) 2025 Annual Report at a Glance.

**Madam President ordered that the Papers and Reports be laid on the Table.**

The under-mentioned Senators made contributions to the Reports and Papers:

- ❖ Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair, Member of the Senate, Farmers' and Fishers' Representative
- ❖ Senator the Honourable Norland Cox, Opposition Member of the Senate, Deputy President
- ❖ Senator the Honourable David Evlyn Andrew, Minister for Education
- ❖ Madam President made remarks

### **QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS**

There were no Questions to Ministers.

### **STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS**

The under-mentioned Ministers made statements:

- ❖ Senator the Honourable Gloria Ann Thomas, Minister for Social & Community Development, Housing and Gender Affairs (Social Security)

*Madam President made remarks*

The under-mentioned Senators made remarks:

Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis, Member of the Senate, Labour Representative

*Madam President made comments*

Senator Lewis sought further clarification.

- ❖ The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture

The under-mentioned Senators made remarks:

Senator the Honourable Norland Cox, Opposition Member of the Senate, Deputy President

### **PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS**

There were no Personal Explanations.

### **MOTIONS**

There were no Motions.

### **BILLS**

#### **POSSESSORY TITLES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026.**

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, introduced the above-mentioned Bill for first reading.

**The Bill was read a first time.**

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved that the relevant Standing Order of the Senate be suspended to enable the Bill to be taken through all its stages at that Sitting.

**Question proposed.**

**Question put and agreed to.**

**Relevant Standing Order suspended.**

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved the second reading of the Bill.

**Question proposed.**

The under-mentioned Members spoke on the Bill:

- ❖ The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture

*Madam President made comments*

- ❖ Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph, Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs

*Madam President made remarks  
Senator Joseph clarified.*

- ❖ Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis, Member of the Senate, Labour Representative

- ❖ Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair, Member of the Senate, Farmers' and Fishers' Representative

- ❖ Senator the Honourable David Evlyn Andrew, Minister for Education

- ❖ Senator the Honourable Gloria Ann Thomas, Minister for Social & Community Development, Housing and Gender Affairs (Social Security)

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, thanked all members for their valued contribution to the Bill and commended the Bill for its second reading.

**Question put and agreed to.**

**The Bill was read a second time.**

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved that the Senate resolve itself into a Committee of the whole Senate to consider the Bill Clause by Clause.

**Question proposed.**

**Question put and agreed to.**

**Senate in Committee.**

Clause 2.	Amendment of section 2 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 3.	Amendment of section 3 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 4.	Amendment of section 4 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 5.	Amendment of section 5 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 6.	Amendment of section 6 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 7.	Insertion of section 6A of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 8.	Repeal and substitution of section 7 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 9.	Insertion of new section 7A to principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 10.	Amendment of section 8 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 11.	Insertion of section 8A to principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 12.	Insertion of new section 11A to principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 13.	Amendment of section 12 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 14.	Amendment of section 19 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 15.	Insertion of section 21 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 16.	Amendment of section 29 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 17.	Amendment of section 32 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 18.	Amendment of section 33 of principal Act	-	agreed to
<b>Clause 19.</b>	<b>Amendment of section 34 of principal Act to be deleted. Henceforth, readjustments in the numbering of the remaining clauses.</b>	-	<b>agreed to</b>
Clause 19.	Insertion of new section 34A of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 20.	Amendment of Schedule I to principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 21.	Amendment of Schedule II to principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 1.	Short title	-	agreed to

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved that the Senate resume and that the Chair of the Committee report progress on the Bill.

**Question proposed.**

**Question put and agreed to.**

The Senate resumed and the Chair of the Committee reported that the Bill was considered by a Committee of the Whole Senate and passed with one amendment.

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved that the Chair's Report be adopted.

**Question proposed.**

**Question put and agreed to.**

**Chair's Report adopted.**

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved the third reading of the Bill.

**Question proposed.**

**Question put and agreed to.**

**Bill read a third time and passed.**

Senator the Honourable Norland Cox, Opposition Member of the Senate and Deputy President rose and pointed out that the Bill has to be returned to the Senate with the amendment.

Madam President thanked the Member for his guidance.

### **PUBLIC BUSINESS**

There was no Public Business.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved the adjournment of the Senate *sine die*.

**Question proposed.**

The under-mentioned Members spoke:

- ❖ Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis, Member of the Senate, Labour Representative
- ❖ Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair, Member of the Senate, Farmers' and Fishers' Representative
- ❖ Senator the Honourable David Evlyn Andrew, Minister for Education.

### **Madam President made closing remarks:**

- Grenada was set to host a regional CARE Seminar (April 16–17) involving Caribbean parliamentarians. The initiative aligned with post-disaster rebuilding strategies to emphasize equality. Caribbean parliamentary leaders will attend, and Senators were urged to participate.


- Emphasis that Cuba was a “sister and brother country”, deeply connected to Grenada historically and socially. Therefore, stated that Grenada has not done enough, public advocacy, material support and direct engagement with Cuban representatives.
- The new Cuban Ambassador to Grenada was acknowledged and welcomed.
- Senators and citizens were encouraged to participate in commemorative activities, the recognition of the 47th anniversary of Grenada–Cuba diplomatic relations (April 14):
- Senators were invited to collaborate on formal Senate statement condemning injustice done to Cuba to move the proposal forward.
- Reminded that the Senate was a space for leadership and moral responsibility. Senators must address difficult global and local issues, including war and human suffering.  
Pride was expressed in Senators for raising important issues and maintaining sensitivity to injustice and human suffering. Senators were encouraged to continue advocating both locally and internationally and remain active, compassionate, principled leaders.

**Question proposed.**

**Question put and agreed to.**

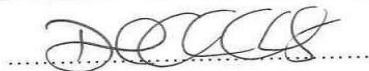
**Senate adjourned *sine die* at 2:23 p.m.**

Submitted to the President for her signature in accordance with Standing Order No. 7(2) of the Revised Standing Orders of the Senate.



Melvina Gulston (Ag.)  
**CLERK OF PARLIAMENT**

Signed by me pursuant to the provisions of the Revised Standing Order No. 7(2).



Dessima Williams  
**PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE**