



24 Land Leases Distributed to Kwakwani residents

Georgetown, Guyana- (February 21, 2020) - Twenty Four residents of Kwakwani Upper Demerara- Berbice region ten, on Friday received leases from the Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission for the very first time. The leases were presented by Minister within the Ministry of Agriculture Hon. Valarie Yearwood and Manager of the Commission's Secretariat, Mr. Durwin Humphrey who represented Commissioner Mr. Trevor L. Benn at the handing over ceremony.

The process began in October 2017, when the Kwakwani Neighborhood Democratic Council sent a letter to the Commission raising several concerns which residents brought to their attention as it relates to the security of their lands. Commissioner Trevor Benn later responded and led a team to the area on a fact-finding mission. At that time, Mr. Benn had assured the residents then that he will ensure that their matters are resolved once all the groundwork are completed.



Minister within the Ministry of Agriculture Hon. Valarie Yearwood, to her left are: GLSC'S Managers Mr. Durwin Humphrey, Mr. Cyphil Swan and Mrs. Jewel Cheong. To her right are Mr. Julian Benons, Senior Land Administration Officer for region 10 and Ms. Elsie McPherson, pose with the new leaseholders.

Minister within the Ministry of Agriculture Hon. Valarie Yearwood was also involved in the process. The residents had reached out to her when she served as Minister responsible for the Central Housing and Planning Authority.

“You are deserving of your leases, and I am happy with the work the Guyana Lands and Surveys has done,” The Minister told the residents.

“The Commission had several engagements with you and it was not easy and it was not cheap. These leases cost the Commission, but I am happy that finally this part is over and I want to say that this is another promise delivered. I am urging you to kindly make the land work for you. Now that you have the security for your land you can finally start or expand your business or your homes” The Minister urged.



Hon. Valarie Yearwood delivering remarks to the new leaseholders

Also in brief remarks, Manager of the Commission’s Secretariat, Mr. Durwin Humphrey, urged the residents make good use of their titles which they have not received in decades.

“These hardworking families are well- deserving of these leases, these families previously had no title, no security of tenure, for their land which they well deserve and we happy that we can provide them with these titles.”

“Ladies and Gentlemen especially those who will be receiving their titles today, we encourage you to take advantage of these titles, make the best use of them, invest in homes and businesses. You can now go to the bank with your titles and obtain a loan” Mr. Humphrey encouraged.

Mr. Humphrey said the Commission is pleased to bring the process to a close and look forward to continue working with the community.

On Thursday the Commission delivered some 36 leases to the residents of Nurney/kildonan in region six.



Manager of the Commission's Secretariat Mr. Durwin Humphrey





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