



# ST. KITTS – NEVIS INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

P.O. Box 1476, Basseterre, St. Kitts • Tele:(869) 662-7327/662-3571 • Email: [skniarchitects@gmail.com](mailto:skniarchitects@gmail.com)

## **9<sup>th</sup> anniversary Annual General Meeting of the St. Kitts – Nevis Institute of Architects**

**31<sup>st</sup> July 2014**

Serendipity Restaurant  
Fort Lands  
Basseterre  
St. Kitts

*Demonstrating our commitment to our profession*

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President: C. Pemberton, Vice President: L. Alvaranga, Secretary: J. Dillion-Sirjue, Treasurer: F.  
O'Garro-Lewis  
Executive Officers: B Dillion-Sirjue, W. Morton, J. Buchanan



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Current Executive, L – R: James Buchanan, Jennifer Dillion-Sirjue  
Calvin Pemberton, Lingbergh Alvaranda, Fonsonia O’Garro-Lewis  
Brian Dillion-Sirjue, Not in Photo, Wycliffe H. Morton



Annual General Meeting of May 26<sup>th</sup> 2011  
Standing: Wycliffe H. Morton Outgoing President  
Current Executive Member SKNIA



President, Mr. Calvin Pemberton  
M.Arch, MSc. Const. Mgnt., SKNIA

## President’s Address

### Introduction

Madam Ambassador, Student Intern, Fellow Colleagues, welcome once again to this very important meeting gathering of our St. Kitts-Nevis institute of Architects at this our operational home. I will like before I go any further to, on behalf of the Institute to publicly thank the owners and proprietors of Serendipity restaurant for putting up with us over those nine years and allowing us the use of their space which they have prepared for us month after month, to you

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Pauleen, Alexander and your staff, we say thank you very kindly for your considerations and accommodations.

As we prepare to celebrate our very important and significant tenth anniversary next June, I continue to reflect on, our inaugural meeting of July 12<sup>th</sup> 2005, and how we have grown. Permit me to share this fact that I have had reasons to inform those who I come in contact with and engaged in discussion. “Whatever the circumstances as to our gatherings, the St. Kitts-Nevis Institute of Architects is the only professional body that meets religiously on a monthly basis and for that reasons alone we ought to be encouraged. While so many of the other professional bodies aren’t as proactively active and organized as we are”.

The St. Kitts –Nevis Institute of Architects (SKNIA) was established through a declaration of existence by the Institute Preamble at 12:55 pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2005 at the Foundation for National Development Conference Room, Bladen’s Commercial Development. The meeting received god’s blessing through prayer by pastor Lincoln Connor of the Antioch Baptist Church, Basseterre. The feature address came from, Barrington Browne Ph.D., in the presence of; Rosalyn Sarendo, Sales Manager of Harris Paints Dominica Ltd., Mrs. Julie Gumbs, Corporate Manager of First Caribbean Bank formally Barclays Bank PLC, and the student Class of 2005 of the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College CFBC. Architects present at the time were: (members) Linbergh Alvaranda, Jamaine W. Buchanan (now deceased) James Buchanan, Anderson Cassius, Jolin Toshi Davis, Brian Dillian-Sirjue, Jennifer Dillion-Sirjue, Gene Elmes (now deceased) Livingston Generlette, Robert Morris, Wycliffe H. Morton, Lewis Newton of Nevis, Fonsonia O, Garro-Lewis, Calvin Pemberton, Lelith Richards of Nevis, Oflyn Rogers, and Dwyane Sturge (now deceased). Over the years we have attracted the interest to membership of other individuals; Calvin Martin, Victor Williams, Jolin Toshi-Davis, James Kelly, Jamal Lewis, Sarni Glasford, Edwin Glasford, Melva Walters. Architects who have not completed membership; Joe Lancaster, Stacy Hobson, Keith Heyligar, Atiba Byron and Laveda Liburd (BVI). Additionally, at our annual general meeting of July 2011, this Institute awarded its first honorary membership that of Fellow to a much deserving son of the soil and pioneer practitioner; Mr. Edwin Glasford. We recognized that the identification, selection and award of this honorary status is no little feat, it is of importance and significance which speaks to the contribution to the profession by Edwin. SKNIA members Victor Williams and James Kelly spoke to the attributes of Edwin’s achievements during the award ceremony.

## Objectives and Aims of the Institute

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I ask that we embrace through action the objects of the Institute, which are:

1. To organize and write in fellowship the members of the architectural profession of St. Kitts and Nevis
2. To advance the Art and Profession of Architecture
3. To consider and safeguard matters of Professional Practice
4. To promote and afford facilities for the study of Architecture
5. To coordinate the building industry and the profession of Architecture to ensure the advancement of the living standards of people through improved environment

The St. Kitts-Nevis Institute of Architects is a professional institution mandated to safe guard, promote and develop the profession of architecture in St. Kitts-Nevis. The Institute is led by an executive body consisting of seven persons who are elected by the full membership for a period of two years. As members of this institution we are bound morally and other wise to promote, and practice in the profession according to established code of ethics, rules and regulations. I urge all of us to represent the institution as the established authority that deals with matters practice and education related to the profession of architecture in St. Kitts-Nevis. Next year we will be electing a new president and the executive for a two year term. One of you, our member will at that time have the privilege and honour to take the mantle to lead this agues Institution into an era of established acknowledgement.

I yearn for the day when we as individuals and as a body we will introduce a refreshing culture of architecture in St. Kitts-Nevis, not only through our own designs, and built works, but through contributions in: lectures, architectural education, and activism which can signal the advent of societal and cultural architectural change. Architecture may not only define an institution, but it can change the entire image of a city and altar a regional economy. Architecture could deliver geopolitical clout, thus we as a professional must strive to change the climate in which designs are conceived and built, and by the way in which the practice of the profession is administered. We as architects must expand expectations of what a building might be.

It would appear that bureaucratic departments operate as if they have an inalienable right to frustrate, thus being responsible for the ways in which our cities are characterized. There are values that we hold and standards we admire that must be manifested in our social and economic development. Let our collective good be more important than our collective acnes.

Based upon the Institute's responsibility to advance and regulate the Profession let us be mindful not to think about ceding to inappropriate institution(s) our responsibilities and or authority to so advance and regulate our noble profession. Such an action would be representative of a failure to

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safe guard and promote the profession and to act in accordance with our mandate and responsibility to regulate the profession.

## New Members to be installed

Dereanne Fleming a graduate of Howard University with a B.Arch. degree

Camille Kelly a graduate of University of Louisiana at Lafayette, with BSc. Arch. and M.Arch. degrees

Rodrique James a graduate of U.C.L.V – Universidad Central “Marta Abrew” de Las Villas, Santa Clara, with Bachelors’ Architecture and Urbanism

## Membership in fellow Associations

The St. Kitts-Nevis Institute of Architects (SKNIA) has secured membership in the following institutions:

Association of Caribbean Societies of Architect Councils (ACSAC)

Federation of Caribbean Architects Association (FCAA)

International Union of Architects (UIA)

This is because our operational provisions (by laws) which have been examined and scrutinized have been found to be in keeping with the approved and established standards of the architectural profession. This is sacred and special to us, let us not throw it away, once lost it will be very hard for it to be restored.

Application for membership to the Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA) is being processed. Permit me to quote from Tony Godwin, Executive Director, CAA by correspondence to Wycliffe, “Further to receipt of your letter of 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011 and SKNIA constitution, I can see that your Institute meets the requirements for CAA membership. However this will be subject to endorsement of CAA Council, which meets on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2012. In the meantime I enclose a performa invoice for your institute’s CAA membership subscription for the year 2012. Please note that completion and return of the performa is mandatory and that, in accordance with Article VIII Clause 2 of the Constitution, the due date for payment is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012”. Close quote. Additionally, the Caribbean Architects Mutual Recognition Committee (CAMRAC) has been established to harmonize the regulatory differences to reach equivalence between the 15 Caribbean Community (CARICOM) member countries, plus the Dominican Republic before an MRA can be considered. Caribbean Media Corporation CMC, Bridgetown Barbados, Tuesday

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October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013, by Michael Bradfod “As the EPA attempts to build a regional market in CARIFORUM, the result will be an even larger market than 15 individual smaller markets that existed before. This makes CARIFORUM more attractive to trade and investors as an integrated market with opportunities for growth and security for their investments. Let there be no mistake, whether sooner or later the MRA will be here.

I wish to advise also, that CAA currently validates the Caribbean School of Architecture, Jamaica.

Currently, SKNIA Executive Member Wycliffe H. Morton serves on the following regional committees: FCAA- Vice President for the English speaking Caribbean, CAA- Vice President for the Americas, CAMRAC- Member who traveled to the European Union EU in relation to the EPA with Cariforum-EU, and ACSAC- Executive Member.

## Activities Report 2013-2014

- Participated in radio (WINNFM) presentation/discussion 18<sup>th</sup> December 2012, the Architect Registration Act 2010 and CARIFORUM – EUROPEAN UNION, Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) host; Tapley Saeton QC
- Participation in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) third Trade Policy Review of St. Kitts and Nevis October 28<sup>th</sup> 2013 Conference Room Ministry of Trade.
- We lost SKNIA member Gene Oliver Elmes on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014, laid to rest 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014, may his soul rest in eternal peace
- Participated in Validation Workshop for the National CARIFORUM-EU EPA Plan, on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014, at the Ocean Terrace Inn, Fortlands
- Participated in Workshop/Meeting with President, Kelvin Daly, Ph.D. and Dean, Andrew Abraham, CFBC
- Participated in a Collaborative meeting with Development Control and Planning Board 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014, SKNIA monthly meeting, Serendipity Restaurant, Fortlands
- Held Joint introductory meeting with St. Kitts-Nevis Engineers Association 11<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at Foundation for National Development Conference Room
  - Action taken: Write letter to contractors Association regarding Building Code Review Committee and write letter to DCPB seeking seat on Building Review Sub-Committee
- Planned Workshop/Meeting with DCPB and SKNIA for 24<sup>th</sup> April 2014, not realized
- Presentation of lecture at Workshop for the Construction of Houses, CFBC 29<sup>th</sup> July 2014

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- The Institute attempts to meet with the Minister of Development regarding the establishment of the Architects Registration Board, has not been realized.

## Continued Professional Development

- Institute Members participated in TDC Group of Companies and Berger Paints Information and Product Seminar at TDC Training Room, Fort Street, Basseterre in November of 2013
- Institute Members participated in TDC Group of Companies and Harris Paints Group ULTIMA Information and Product Seminar at the Ocean Terrace Inn (OTI), Wigley Avenue, Basseterre, on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014
- Institute Members visits Mr. Hillock's factory display headquarters to participate in a demonstration exercise for Polished Concrete floors installation processes at C.A. Paul Southwell Industrial Site on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2014
- Institute Members participate in a Green Block Insulated Forms presentation on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2014 at Bird Rock Beach Hotel
- The Institute continues to participate in CFBC Architecture Program activities: lectures; Calvin Pemberton, Wycliffe H. Morton, and Dereanne Fleming, and end of Semester final presentation juries assessment exercises, etc.

## Architects Registration Board

After the passing of the Architects Act in December of 2000, the next issue that is being pursued is the establishing of the Architects Registration Board, which has not been realized. There exists or seems to exist unjustifiable contentious issues, emotional, social, political, and economical. May I impress upon us by reminding us that the sustainability and ownership of this Architects Institute is the responsibility and mandate for all of us, we are all equal amongst each other who elects and nominates our peers to serve in various capacities for specific periods and purposes. The Institute's obligation is to represent the interests of its members and the profession at all time. There can't and there isn't any agenda to represent special interests. In such an institution this must be done the right way at all times and once things are done right they will always stand the test of time. We all recognize that it is always a bad idea and sets bad precedent to legislate for an individual.

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Recall, the words of our former president Wycliffe Morton during his President’s Report of 2011, “It is my considered opinion that the three individuals from the Institute who are to be nominated to the registration Board be fully unequivocally qualified as professional architects and recognize the agenda of the Institute is to secure registration for both our professionally qualified and pre-professionally qualified members”.

## Recognitions and Awards

The Architectural Firm of Brisbane Ogarro Alverangda BOA has been published in.... and recognized for....

## Agenda for moving forward

The following is a prescribed five point agenda for moving forward for the Institute. In so doing we ask the members to indicate by placing your name next to the committee(s) designation on which one wishes to serve.

- Establish Architects Registration Board
- Develop professional practice guidelines and relevant documents for members use
- Provide for continued professional development and education
- Participate in meetings/workshops and advise on global economic realities (CSME, EPA)
- Establish a SKNIA headquarters

## Conclusion

In conclusion I wish to thank the members of the executive and the general membership for their continued support. The opportunity and privilege for me to continue to serve as your president is a humbling one yet rewarding. Though the task at times seems daunting but the adventures and insights continue to be fulfilling experiences. This personal development must be broadened and experienced by all. I further ask that we double our efforts and continue to work together in fulfillment of the aims, objectives, and mandate of the St. Kitts-Nevis Institute of Architects.

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## Annual General Meeting July 31<sup>st</sup> 2014 Attendance Register

Names:

Wycliffe Morton  
Camille Kelly  
Calvin Pemberton  
Bryan Dillion-Sirjue  
Edwin Glasford  
Jennifer Dillion-Sirjue  
Dereanne Fleming  
Calvin Martin  
Melva Walters  
Lindberg Alvaranga  
James R Buchanan

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[eglasford.architects@gmail.com](mailto:eglasford.architects@gmail.com)  
[jensirjue@gmail.com](mailto:jensirjue@gmail.com)  
[djcf\\_architects@outlook.com](mailto:djcf_architects@outlook.com)  
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## **SKNIA Activities Schedule Implementation Committee Roster**

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee:

Practice; (Preparation of Contracts and fees Documentations Committee): Calvin Martin, Wycliffe H. Morton

Web-site Management Committee:

SKNIA Diary Committee: Jennifer Dillion-Sirjue , Camille Kelly, Melva Walters

Architectural Project Competition Committee: Dereanne Fleming, Rodrique G. James, Calvin Martin

Continuing Education and Personal Development Committee: Brian Dillion-Sirjue, Calvin Martin

Economic Partnership Agreement MRA, CARIFORUM – EU Committee: James Buchanan, Wycliffe H.Morton

Sourcing SKNIA Headquarters Committee: Dereanne Fleming, Edwin Glasford

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Recruitment - Membership Drive Committee: James Buchanan, Camille Kelly, Edwin Glasford

Public Relation Communication (news letter/article) Committee: Brian Dillion-Sirjue, Melva Walters

Architects Registration Board Advisor Committee: James Buchanan, Wycliffe H. Morton

Qualification and Validation Committee: Jennifer Dillion-Sirjue

Other Suggested Committees and Volunteers: (Liaison with Educational Institutions i.e CFBC, Camille Kelly

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