



eVision

A PLAN TO UNLOCK THE POTENTIAL

*EXUMA, EXUMA CAYS
AND RAGGED ISLAND*

#Cooper2022

**#team
COOPER**



eVision 2030

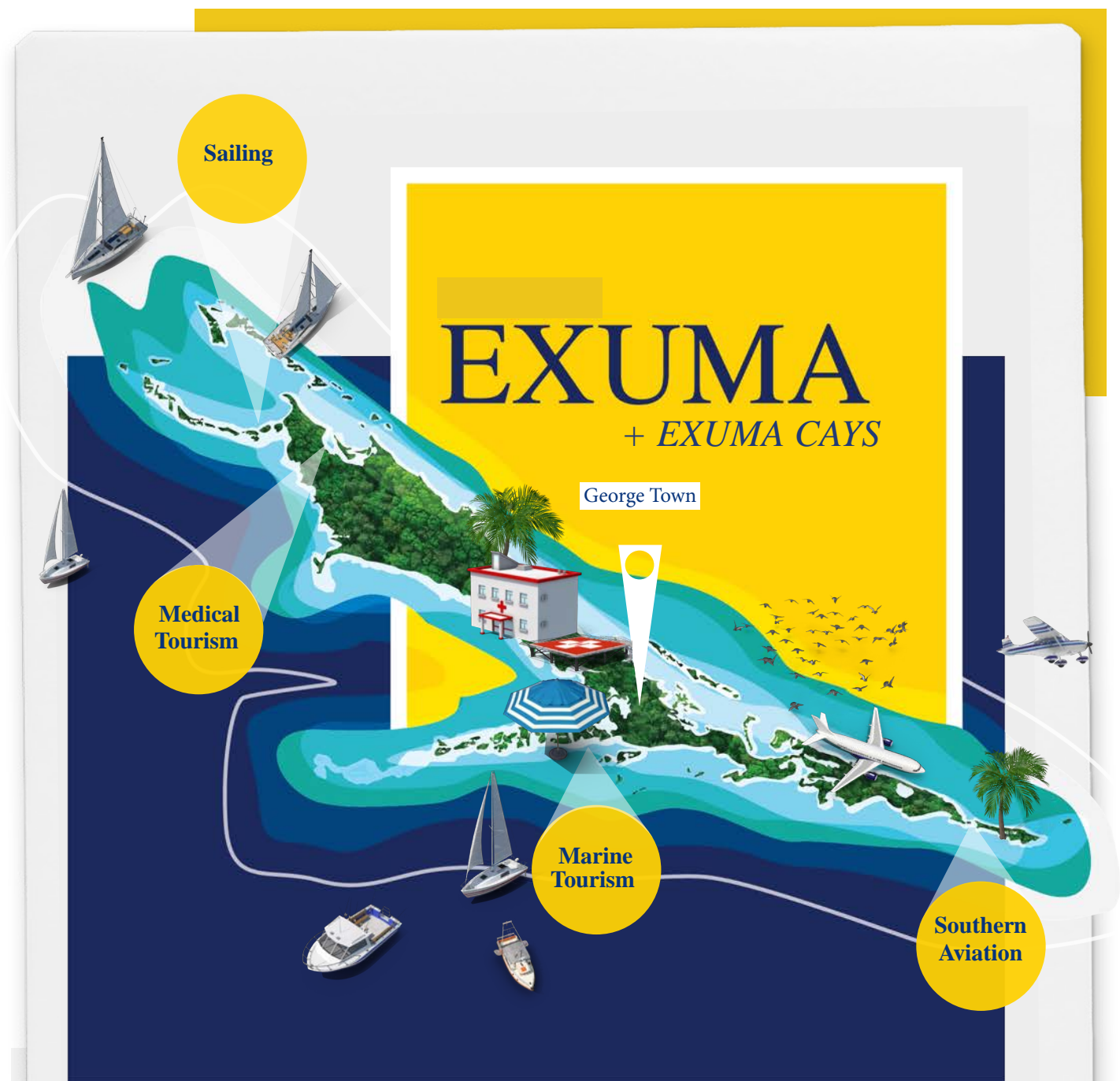
A PLAN TO UNLOCK THE POTENTIAL

*EXUMA, EXUMA CAYS
AND RAGGED ISLAND*



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Exuma will become the hub of southern aviation; center for medical and marine tourism, and home of sailing for The Bahamas. The capital of Exuma, George Town, will be restored to bring about a renewed sense of pride and create economic opportunities for Exumians. Exuma will become a place recognized for personal growth and development with an unmatched quality of life and a great place to mix business with pleasure. As the medical tourism center for the region with collaborations with internationally recognized institutions, Exuma will offer the best in healthcare services. Sailing will become the national sport of The Bahamas, with Exuma taking its rightful place as the Sailing Capital of the country. Exuma will be a place where residents thrive, and become the model of excellence for The Bahamas.



Ragged Island will become the fishing capital of the Southern Bahamas, with a focus on eco and heritage tourism and the salt industry. With a new Port of Entry, Ragged Island will be promoted as the fishing capital of the South, with special focus on game and commercial fishing and boating. The salt product industry will be incentivized to create a cottage industry with 'Salt Spas', and other spin-off entrepreneurial opportunities. With its rich history, including the devastating sinking of the HMBS Flamingo and trade with Cuba, heritage tourism will be promoted. The ecological advantages of Ragged Island is well established and will be marketed as an 'Eco-tourism Escape'. Like Exuma Pride, we will create a comprehensive and sustainable program, 'Restore Ragged Island', that greatly enhances Ragged Island's growth and development.

Dear Residents:

It has been an honour to serve you, over the last 5 years. Thank you residents of Exuma, Exuma Cays and Ragged Island, and proud citizens of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas for entrusting me with your representation.

The journey has not been easy! Hurricane Irma struck a mighty blow, followed by the devastating fall-out and lockdowns as a result of COVID-19. Still, we are a resilient people; we are built Exuma and Ragged Island strong.

As you know, when I began this journey of representing you, I took with me, my hopes and dreams as a son from Forbes Hill, Little Exuma. Team Cooper recognizes that our communities deserved better and needed our voices to be heard.

We not only represent hundreds of the most beautiful islands on the planet, but we also recognize our significance to the further growth and development of The Bahamas.

Remember, my office doors are always open to you. We want to hear from you to ensure that we assist you in achieving your goals, alongside the plans for our communities. Again, I am here for you, *all the way!*

Chester Cooper





*“We have achieved much
despite being in opposition.
Next term we will do even
more in Government.”*

— I. Chester Cooper, MP



Distributing Half-Term Report; Team Cooper Cares; Door-to-Door; In the Community.

I remain excited about the way forward for Exuma, Exuma Cays and Ragged Island.

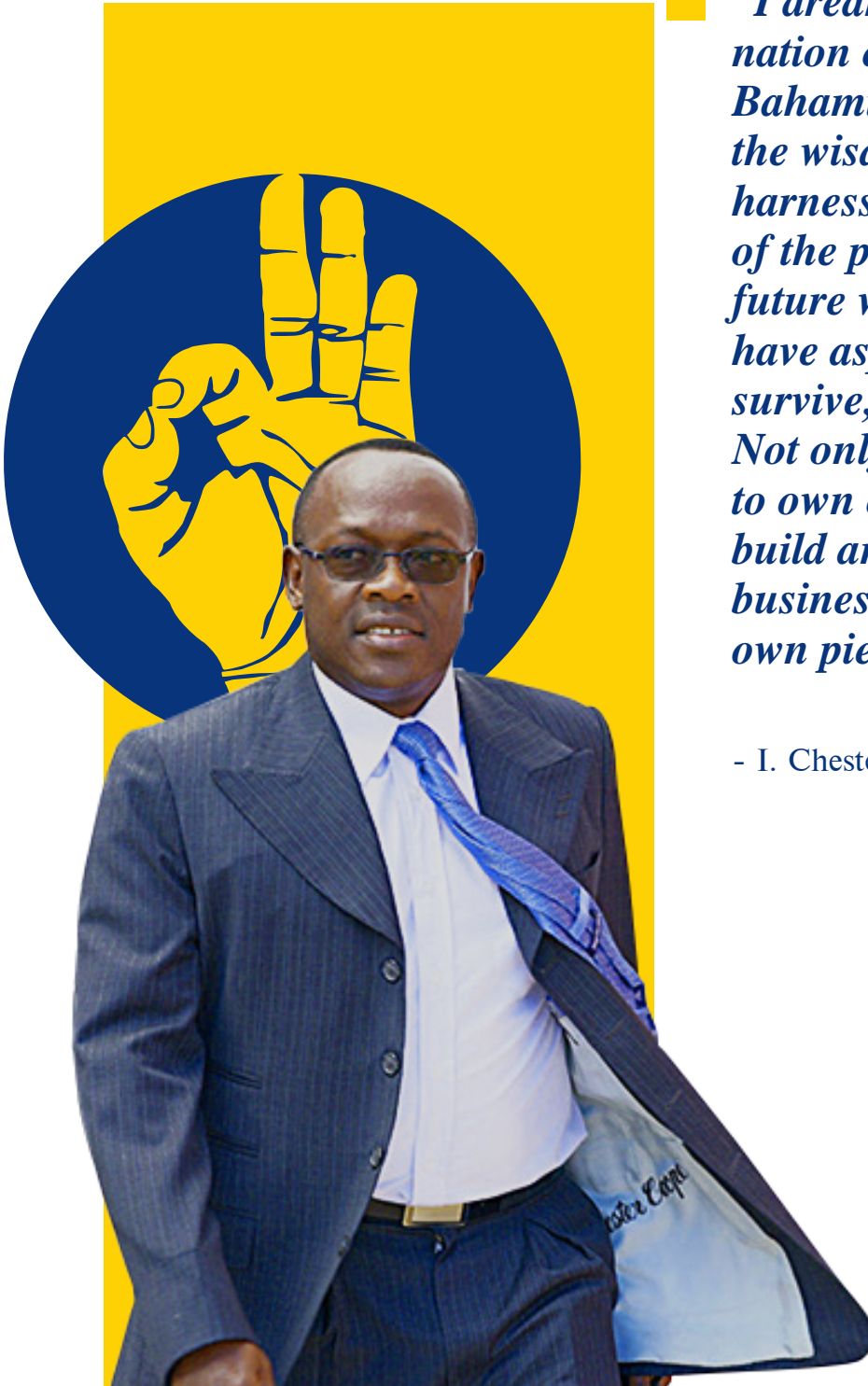
I remain focused on the pillars of eVision 2030 and the work being done to make it a reality. I remain committed to giving you the best representation inside and outside the halls of parliament. I remain steadfast in ensuring that our people receive the opportunities that not only exist, but the ones that are created specifically for you through strategic alliances.

For the first 5 years, we tackled some issues that have plagued us for a very long time, but there is still so much more work to be done. I believe that we are on the right track, and I will continue to advocate, with integrity and effective leadership to empower our people.

To the wonderful people that I serve, I once again ask you to support me, as we work together to take Exuma, Exuma Cays and Ragged Island to the next level of sustained economic development. Together let us all enjoy a better quality of life.

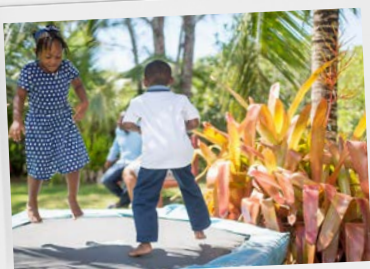
I commit to continuing my work for our 365 islands and cays, 365 days of the year! - I. Chester Cooper, MP

The Man *His Mission*



“I dream of building a nation connecting all Bahamians; grounded in the wisdom of the past and harnessing the creativity of the present to develop a future where our youth can have aspirations to not only survive, but to thrive. Not only to have a job but to own our Bahamas; to build and grow their own business and carve out their own piece of the pie.”

- I. Chester Cooper, MP



A FAMILY MAN:

Adept at balancing all areas of his life, Cooper enjoys spending time with his family. He is married to Cecillia (nee Cox), and they have three beautiful children. A devoted family man with deeply rooted Christian principles and a strong community spirit, he is the epitome of a patriot with a burning desire to contribute to creating a better Exuma, Exuma Cays and Ragged Island, and Bahamas, for future generations. He enjoys cycling, back-yard farming, boating, travelling and ‘fishing-on-the-rocks’.



A VISIONARY LEADER:

Cooper has proven to be a visionary leader who is passionate and strategic about organizing change. This attribute has allowed him to develop many of the long-term, sustainable projects that will cause Exuma, Exuma Cays and Ragged Island to reach its potential. This includes eVISION 2030, Bahamas Empowerment Fund, Exuma Pride, Exuma Youth Empowerment Center, and the Forbes Hill Cultural Center.

A COMMUNITY LEADER:

Cooper's upbringing of overcoming obstacles, fuels his passion to empower Bahamians. He is a philanthropist and an avid supporter of numerous causes that promote community development, scholarships and education, and initiatives that foster sustained economic growth through entrepreneurial development. He engages in mentoring many young executives and entrepreneurs, to help them build and grow their businesses, and also served as Chairman of the Bahamas Chamber of Commerce from 2012 – 2019. Cooper's years of service as a high school teacher, speaks to his passion and commitment to the development of the youth and by extension, the nation.



A BUSINESS LEADER:

One of the great business and financial minds of our time, Cooper is the Chairman & CEO of BAF Global Group and President & CEO of BAF Financial & Insurance (Bahamas) Ltd. At the age of 34, Cooper became CEO of BAF. Two years later, in 2007, as the principal shareholder of BAB Holdings Limited, he led the management buy-out of British American Insurance making it 100% Bahamian owned. This bold move signaled the rebirth and transformation of the oldest Insurance Company in the Bahamas and the re-energizing of the Bahamian domestic Insurance & Financial Services Industries. BAF Global Group has now diversified into commercial real estate, retail, money transfer services and Fintech. In business, Cooper is an ambitious, forward-thinking, and inspiring leader who boasts an open-door policy accessible to people and employees at all levels. Under his leadership, the company grew from 90 to almost 500 in The Bahamas, Cayman Islands and Turks & Caicos Islands.



A POLITICAL LEADER:



Cooper is a prolific, no-nonsense debater who is respected on both sides of the political divide and represents a new generation of political leadership in The Bahamas. He became Deputy Leader of the Progressive Liberal Party in October 2017, and also serves as Chair of the COVID Economic Committee, Opposition Spokesperson on Finance, Member of the Public Accounts Committee, Member of the Treasury Committee, and the Boundaries Commission. Cooper is astute in addressing local, national and international issues, as he works to improve the lives of Bahamians in an ever changing global environment.

A NATION BUILDER:

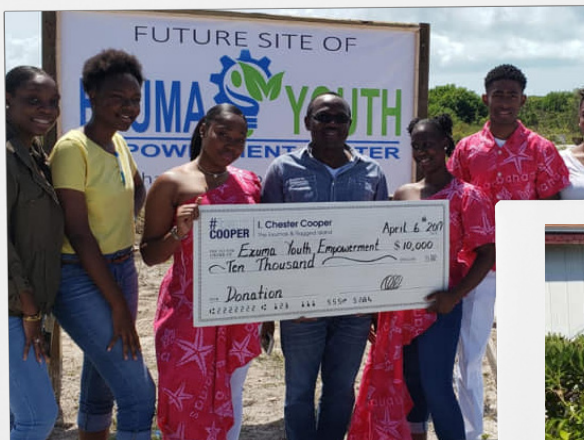
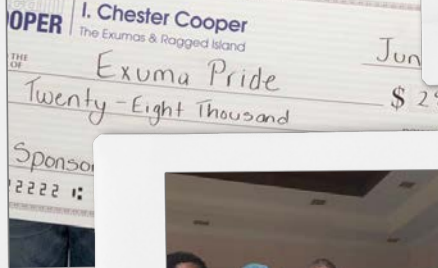
He was only five years old when his father passed tragically, leaving his mother to raise 12 young children. The challenges his family faced taught him humility, courage, resilience and entrepreneurship. Having pursued education through scholarships, he understands the positive impact that community and education can have on a person's life. After several years studying and working in Ireland and Luxembourg, gaining experience in the Financial Services Industry, Cooper returned home in 1999 with a dream of contributing to nation building.

OTHER MILESTONES:

- College of The Bahamas Alumni;
Hall of Fame Inductee in 2008
- Former Host of ZNSTV-13 financial show,
“You & Your Money”
- Author of “Ask Chester about Saving,
Planning and Investing for Retirement”
- Distinguished Toastmaster & Past Governor
- Past Honorary Consul (HCC) for Slovakia



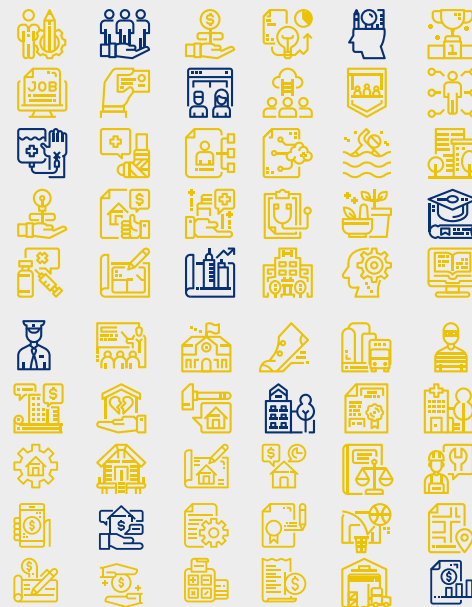
WORK IN COMMUNITY





10 POINT PLAN:

[Working toward eVision 2030]

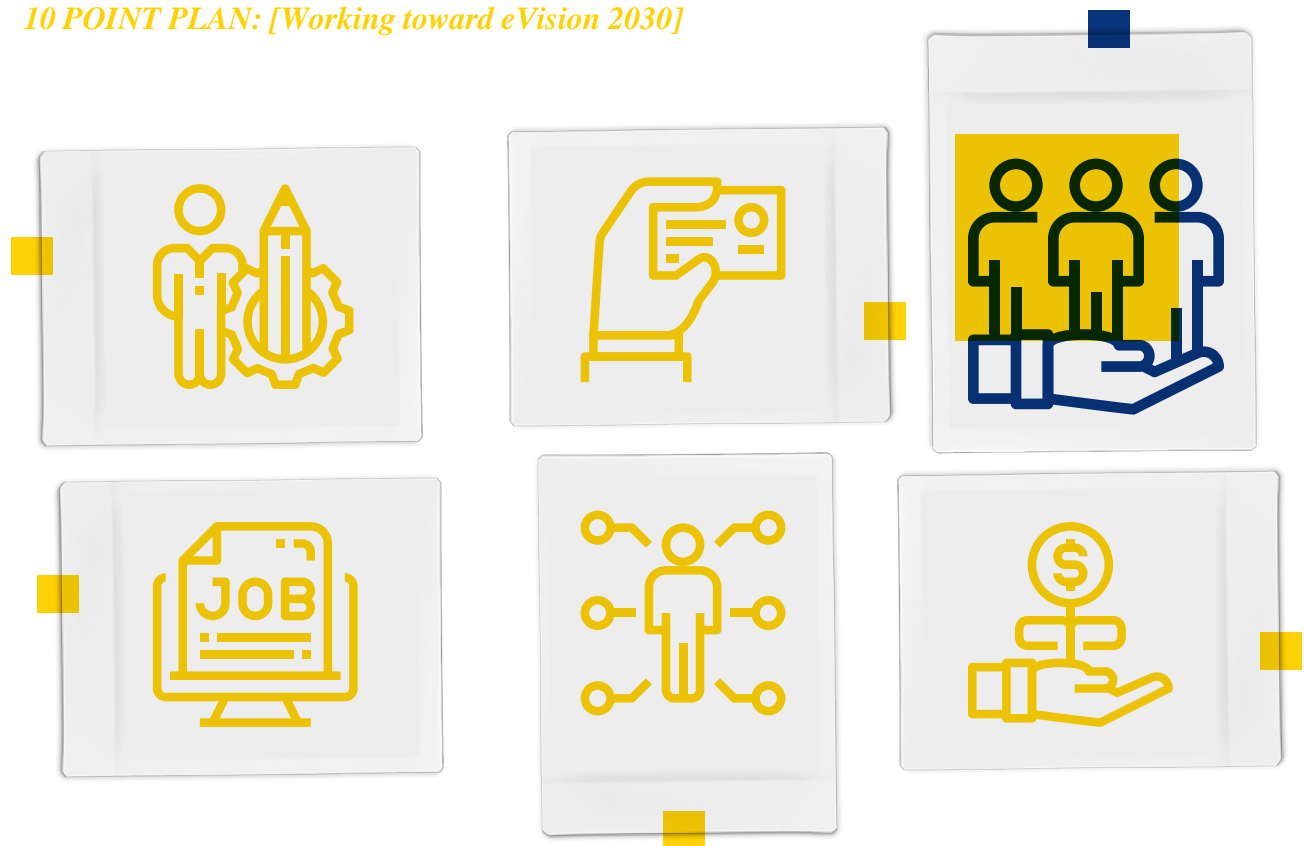


Jobs and ~~X~~ Job Readiness:

01

The goal is to get projects that create employment opportunities on track, create a Jobs Bank, and ensure that we bridge the skills gap with focused effort on training our people for the opportunities that new development will create. We will work with the local business communities and foreign investors to ensure that Exumians have first opportunity for available jobs.

10 POINT PLAN: [Working toward eVision 2030]



Entrepreneurship & Empowerment: *02*

Team Cooper is focused on ownership and inspiring Bahamians to get a greater piece of the economic pie. We will vigorously promote and support initiatives that strengthen Bahamian ownership through entrepreneurship, mentoring and empowerment workshops; as well as investing in technical support.

10 POINT PLAN: [Working toward eVision 2030]



Youth Development: *X 03*

We will continue to introduce youth development programs with the Exuma Youth Empowerment Center and also focus on sports facilities. This, along with the many programs aimed at ensuring our young people have the resources to thrive, will develop a progressive environment for youth excellence.

10 POINT PLAN: [Working toward eVision 2030]



Hospital, Healthcare and Wellness:

04

Exuma is in desperate need of the relaunching and provisioning of our new hospital that was built in 2016 by the previous administration. This, along with the opportunity for Medical Tourism and other health and wellness initiatives, will create an environment for sustained development. This will be a key priority.

10 POINT PLAN: [Working toward eVision 2030]



Scholarship and Education:

05

Education is always the key to success and the great equalizer, and we will ensure that college fairs and resources are available for our young people to assist in fostering life skills, financial literacy, innovation and global perspective, as they reach their potential.

10 POINT PLAN: [Working toward eVision 2030]



Infrastructure: *X06*

We must not only fix existing infrastructure, but move to more environmentally-friendly and cutting-edge methods for development. We will restore George Town, rebuild Ragged Island and continue to push for infrastructural improvements throughout our communities. This must be a key priority.

10 POINT PLAN: [Working toward eVision 2030] ■



Safety and Protection:

07

As we look to the future, we will continuously put in place systems for disaster management and relief; improve the fire fighting equipment and enhance the ‘Crime Stoppers’ initiative to ensure the safety of our people and those who visit us. Our Youth Empowerment Center will also be a state-of-the-art hurricane shelter.

10 POINT PLAN: [Working toward eVision 2030]



Community Development: X 08

Team Cooper will continue to reach those in need, develop programs that empower our people to thrive, and through projects like Exuma Pride and Team Cooper Cares, build communities that provide inspiration for all Bahamians.

10 POINT PLAN: [Working toward eVision 2030]

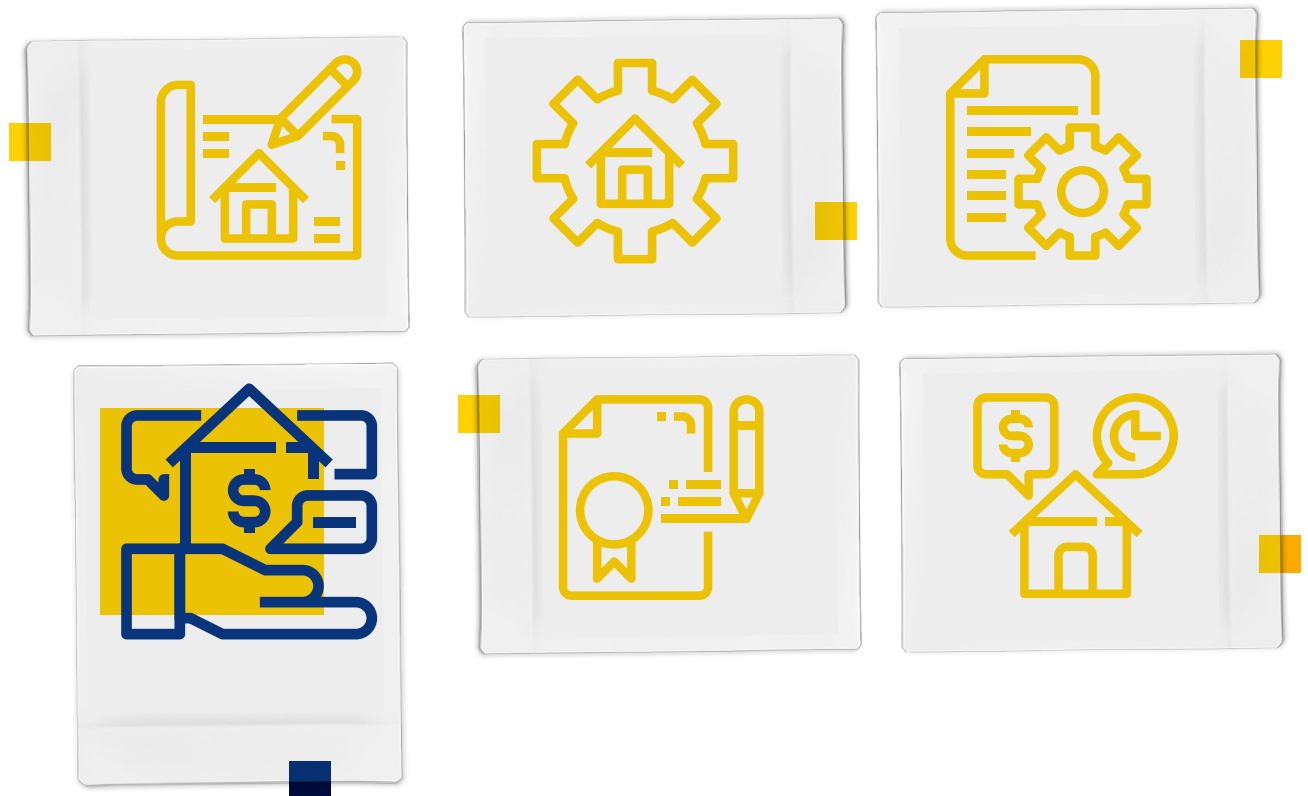


Land Reform + Affordable Housing:

09

In order to achieve what we have set out in eVision 2030, land reform and affordable housing are critical matters being addressed, and ties into our push for empowerment. We will work with Commonage communities to launch their own Credit Union to provide loans to members.

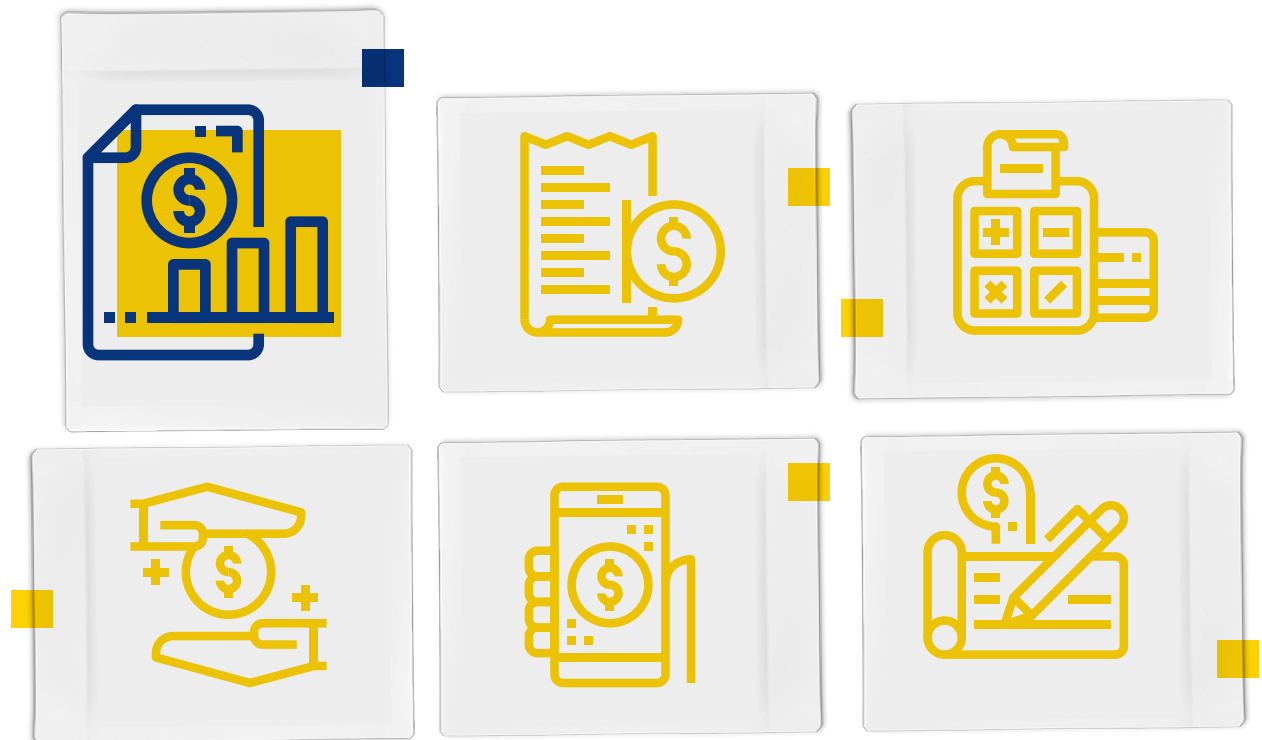
10 POINT PLAN: [Working toward eVision 2030]



Sustainable Economic Development: *XY 10*

Develop a masterplan with engagement of the residents and other stakeholders, designed to revitalize, innovate, and empower for the future growth of the Exuma, Exuma Cays and Ragged Island, over the next 30 years.

10 POINT PLAN: [Working toward eVision 2030]



OUR COMMUNITY







■ ***Advocacy in Parliament***

As your member of parliament, Cooper has been advocating on behalf of Exuma, Exuma Cays and Ragged Island inside and outside the halls of Parliament, raising issues of concern of the residents. The needs of the constituents will continue to be vigorously addressed, as we work toward better, safer, and more prosperous communities.

■ ***Collaboration***

In order to obtain the results desired, working together is key. We continuously engage central and local government, through meetings, correspondence and in the House of Assembly. Once it is in the best interest of Exuma, Exuma Cays, and Ragged Island, we will continue to support these initiatives.

■ ***Town Meetings***

Numerous physical and virtual town meetings were held throughout the island to keep residents abreast of ongoing developments for our 10-Point Plan toward eVision 2030. Special meetings were also held to discuss national issues, such as COVID-19, WTO, the decriminalization of marijuana, and responsible gaming. This will continue.

■ ***Empowerment Tours***

These tours are designed to reach the people of Exuma and Ragged Island chains where they are to provide community updates, receive questions and give answers, discuss concerns, and obtain input for the development of the master plan for our communities. The tours come in the form of town halls, focus groups, or walkabouts. To date, the settlements of Rolleville, Forbes Hill, Black Point, Staniel Cay, and Ragged Island have participated, with additional visits and walkabouts planned.

■ ***Focus Groups***

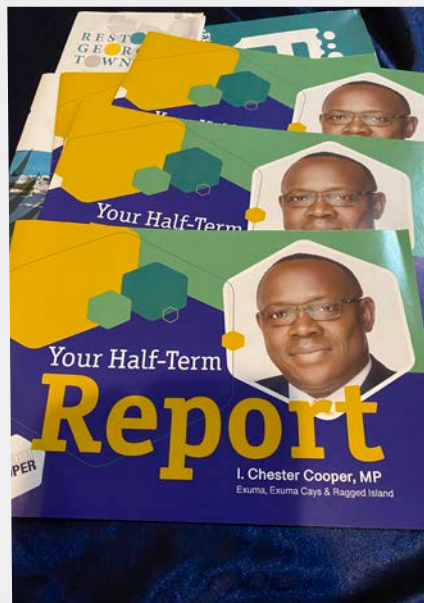
At times, issues will arise that require focus group intervention. Team Cooper has held many of these meetings including, but not limited to, the fair treatment of local tour operators, condition of facilities for fish fry vendors, and matters related to youth development.

FOR OUR PEOPLE

WHAT we've DONE



and will
continue
to do!



Accountability



Jobs + Job Readiness



Job Skills Bank

We actively seek to identify job seekers to connect with available opportunities. Our Job Skills Bank allows us to determine the skills in the community and is the go-to place when employers are looking to fill vacancies.



Mentoring

Team Cooper has established a mentorship program to assist job seekers in preparing themselves for the work force. This mentoring has resulted in a number of job placements, throughout the community.



Our Brother's Keeper

Team Cooper has assisted numerous displaced Abaco and Grand Bahama residents who were forced to relocate after the catastrophic Hurricane Dorian. Assistance was provided to connect with housing and job opportunities.



Entrepreneurship + Empowerment



Bahamas Entrepreneur Fund

Exuma is receiving significant growth mainly through foreign direct investments. In order to encourage harmonious, socio-economic balance, Bahamas Empowerment Fund was formed as a venture capital vehicle to assist small and medium-sized business. The member of parliament has personally invested more than \$100,000 for technical support and to fund two (2) home based businesses in Exuma and Ragged Island. Access to funding is a major impediment to locals seizing the opportunities that spin off from the island's economic growth.



Entrepreneurial Workshop

In working toward the Entrepreneurship and Empowerment component of the 10-Point Plan of eVision 2030, several Business Plan Sessions were held since 2017. These sessions are designed to give residents every opportunity to become business owners and receive a greater share of the economic pie.



QuickBooks Workshop

Team Cooper sponsored a Certified QuickBooks Program to assist entrepreneurs and business owners in the use of this accounting system that allows them to better manage their income and expenses, as they grow their business.



Youth Development *[Annual Events]*



Youth Symposium

Since 2017, the annual Youth Symposium has been held at Mt. Thompson, Exuma. It provides an opportunity for youth to enhance life-improving communication and leadership skills through workshops, motivational sessions and fun activities.



Summer Camp

In partnership with BAF Financial, Mrs. Cecillia Cooper has spearheaded summer camps in Exuma since 2014. The camps are designed to give kids the opportunity to engage in fun, educational and meaningful exchange during the summer-break, at no cost to the parents.



Junior Achievement

We launched the Aspire Junior Achievement Program with L. N. Coakley and St. Andrew's School to teach entrepreneurship and leadership at an early age.



Graduates 'Hangin' with Mr. Cooper'

Since 2017, Mr. and Mrs. Cooper have hosted the high school graduates of Exuma to lunch. During the event, the students enjoy inspiring conversation focused on their future and they are given gifts.

OUR YOUTH



Youth Development *[Annual Events] continued*



Easter

Easter is a special time of celebration and a time for kids to enjoy Easter treats. Team Cooper's Easter Egg Hunt and basket distribution in the Cays continues to be a welcomed treat for the young people in the community.



Playgrounds

Team Cooper is committed to creating an environment where children can play safely. To date, playgrounds have been erected in Rolle Town, Black Point, The Forest and Curtis, with others to be developed shortly.



Basketball Programs

We have spent more than \$75,000 on basketball programs, including the installation of brand new basketball courts and equipment in The Forest, Rolleville, Roker's Point, George Town, and Mt. Thompson. The Progressive Young Liberals (PYL) has conducted successful basketball tournaments in Ramsey, Exuma. This will continue in other communities. We are working to pave basketball courts throughout the constituency.



OUR YOUTH





HealthCare and Wellness



Town Hall on COVID-19

Prior to the first national lockdown as a result of COVID-19, Team Cooper hosted a Town Hall Meeting at the St. Andrews Community Center in George Town, Exuma to discuss the deadly virus and steps residents should take to protect themselves and their loved ones. Speakers included, Reginald Smith (Exuma Pride), I. Chester Cooper (Exuma Update) and Keynote Speaker, Dr. Delon Brennen, Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Corona Virus).



Healthy Lifestyle Program

Team Cooper will introduce a Healthy Lifestyle Program that promotes healthy diets, exercise, and overall wellness. Free dental and wellness clinics.



Back Yard Farming

Back Yard Farming is not only great for becoming self-sufficient in feeding ourselves, but it is also great for ensuring our daily supply of fresh fruits and vegetables. It also offers enormous benefits of providing relaxation as well as physical and mental stimulation. Team Cooper will launch a Back Yard Farming campaign throughout the islands.



Scholarship and Education



Louise Cooper Scholarship Fund

Louise Cooper Scholarship Fund assists deserving students from low-income families to receive tertiary education. The Fund was inspired by the personal upbringing of the island's MP and named in honor of his late mother. Over the past four (4) years the Fund has assisted eleven (11) Exumians for approximately \$100,000 to attend universities abroad, the University of the Bahamas and The Bahamas Technical Vocational Institute.



College and Scholarship Fair

The Exuma College Fair 2020 sponsored by JA Bahamas and Team Cooper was a great success. Education is the great equalizer, and we are proud to provide the youth of Exuma access to opportunities that allow them to further their education. Full scholarships were awarded at the event. Participating institutions included Morgan State University, St. George's University, LJM Maritime Academy, Middle Tennessee State University, University of Houston-Victoria, Georgia State University, Johnson & Wales University, BAMSI, BTVI, Lipscomb University, Point Park University, Lincoln University, and OSWEGO State University of New York. Team Cooper continues to work with professional college planners from Junior Achievement Bahamas and The Oscar Francis International Education and Sports Christian Garden, to ensure access to the best options available for graduating students.

EDUCATION



Scholarship and Education



Back-to-School

It is the firm belief of the Member of Parliament that education is the key to success, and he makes it his priority to engage young people as they return to school. Team Cooper's Back-to-School give-away and school visits provide an opportunity for this to happen. Each child receives a back-to-school package at the event.



Study Night

PYL introduced 'Study Night', a program designed to assist young people in their quest for academic excellence. During the event, tutors and trained teachers are on-hand to assist students.



Community Development





Community Development



Christmas

After supporting Thanksgiving dinners, the year culminates with a Christmas party for all children of the community. This is a time for residents, throughout the islands, to come together for a party in the park that includes Santa Claus and his helpers, as they celebrate the Holiday Season and set goals for the New Year. Each child is treated with a holiday present.



Team Cooper Cares

Throughout the community, a group of Team Cooper volunteers also know as, 'Team Cooper Cares', are busy bringing smiles to the faces of elderly residents and other locals. Many have had a hard time recovering from damages suffered during various storms, with roof and home repairs, and with relief efforts during lockdowns caused by COVID-19.



Family Empowerment Day

This annual event will seek to provide an experience of an all-day empowerment session to include speakers of various disciplines, including health and fitness experts, financial planners, business development experts, legal minds, and community leaders. It will range from eye, blood pressure and glucose testing, to discussions about generational wealth, healthy lifestyles, building better communities, encouraging citizen governance and volunteerism.

OUR COMMUNITY





Safety and Protection



Fire Fighting Equipment

When we all focus on doing what is best for Exuma, big things can happen. Four fire fighting water trailers arrived on Exuma, courtesy of Team Cooper, the Exuma Foundation and local government. The equipment was placed in strategic locations across Exuma for quick responses to fires. These were commissioned with trained volunteers under the command of Fireman Bradwin Hall, and makes for a safer, stronger, more empowered Exuma.



Exuma Food Bank

Team Cooper established a food bank shortly after Hurricane Irma (2017). Its capacity and distribution increased since March 2020. The coronavirus pandemic has increased joblessness, resulting from the halt in tourism and the emergency orders, pushing those already vulnerable deeper into destitution. At time of printing, we have distributed more than 8,000 food packages across Exuma and Ragged Island, with support from friends of Exuma.



Legal Aid Workshop

To assist constituents, Team Cooper has offered free Legal Aid consultations to those needing help with wills and other legal matters.



EXUMA PRIDE

*One People.
One Purpose.*

The Exuma Pride Project is designed to have a visible impact on the island in terms of cleanliness and pride; to make Exuma Island and Cays the model of excellence for The Bahamas; and to deliver a comprehensive, sustainable program that greatly impacts the growth and development of Exuma Island and Cays. The plan was launched late 2018 and has received significant publicity and momentum. Exuma's MP, I. Chester Cooper, donated his entire 2019 member of parliament salary (\$28,000) towards the initiative.

Education

Exuma Pride Ambassador Program
Getting the word out;
public awareness; enforcement

Environment

Cleanup Projects
Refurbishment and Maintenance



EXUMA
PRIDE

Programs

- George Town Revitalization
- Beautification Initiative
- Exuma Yard Competition
- Poster + Essay Competition
- Exuma Best Competition; Best Yard, Best Settlement
- Tree Planting
- Removal of Derelict Vehicles, old appliances and barge (Navy Base)
- Painting and/or demolition of old buildings
- Upkeep of public spaces and historical sites
- Installation of proper signage
- Waste management and recycling
- Adopt-A-Program: parks, settlements, beaches and public spaces with the support of businesses and investors
- Spay & Neuter
- Curbside Maintenance
- Build and maintain playgrounds
- Harbor Management

PHILANTHROPY + SUPPORTED PROJECTS

*The following is a list of some of the projects
supported by Team Cooper since 2017*

+ “As each has
received a gift,
use it to serve
one another,
as good
stewards of
GOD’S
varied grace”

1 Peter 4:10

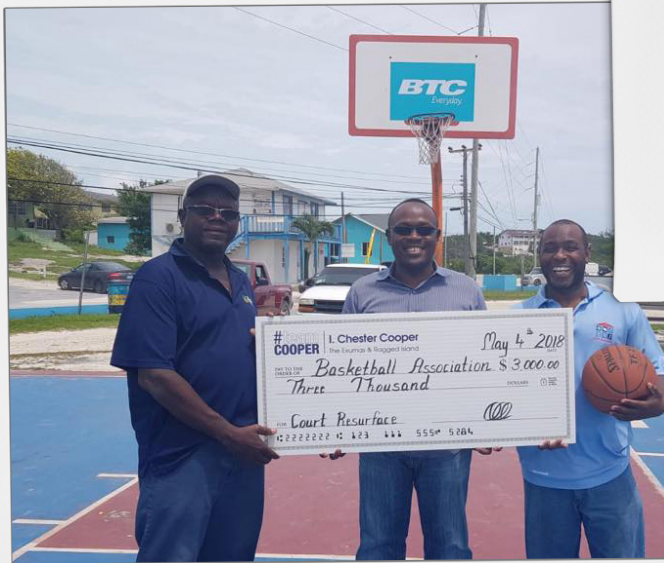


PHILANTHROPY + SUPPORTED PROJECTS

■ *The following is a list of some of the projects supported by Team Cooper since 2017*

- | | |
|---|--|
| 01 • BAARK Spay & Neuter | 30 • Louise Cooper Memorial Scholarship Fund |
| 02 • Bahamas Technical & Vocational Institute | 31 • Moriah Harbor Park Project |
| 03 • Barrattere Association & Regatta | 32 • Moss Town School |
| 04 • Black Point Regatta | 33 • Mt. Olive Baptist Church |
| 05 • Black Point School | 34 • Mt. Royal Lodge |
| 06 • Bul Reg Regatta | 35 • Mt. Sanai Union Baptist Church |
| 07 • Church of God Exuma District | 36 • Mt. Thompson Commonage Association |
| 08 • Church of God of Prophecy | 37 • Musical Youth Junkanoo Group |
| 09 • Crusaders Junkanoo Group | 38 • National Family Island Regatta |
| 10 • Exuma Baptist District Council | 39 • Operation Restore Ragged Island |
| 11 • Exuma Cancer Society | 40 • Palestine Baptist Church |
| 12 • Exuma Chamber of Commerce | 41 • Ramsey Homecoming |
| 13 • Exuma Christian Academy | 42 • Rolle Town Association |
| 14 • Exuma Farmer's Association | 43 • Rolleville Association & Regatta |
| 15 • Exuma Fire Brigade | 44 • Run for Pompey Scholarship |
| 16 • Exuma Marathon | 45 • St. Andrew's Anglican School |
| 17 • Exuma Marching Band | 46 • St. Margaret's Baptist Church |
| 18 • Exuma Pride Project | 47 • St. Peter's Union Baptist Church |
| 19 • Exuma Sailing Club | 48 • St. Theresa's Catholic Church |
| 20 • Exuma Youth Empowerment Center | 49 • Staniel Cay School |
| 21 • Exuma Youth Marching Band | 50 • Stuart Manor, Curtis, Alexander Association |
| 22 • Farmer's Cay Regatta & Homecoming | 51 • Team Cooper Cares |
| 23 • Farmer's Cay School | 52 • The Forest Association |
| 24 • Farmer's Hill Association | 53 • Warriors Junkanoo Group |
| 25 • Forbes Hill Association | 54 • Williams Town School |
| 26 • George Town Basketball | 55 • Williams Town Association |
| 27 • Junior Achievement Program | 56 • Steventon Association Pompey |
| 28 • L. N. Coakley Pop Band | 57 • BahamaHost |
| 29 • L. N. Coakley High School | 58 • University of The Bahamas |

**Some projects/donations have not been listed. These projects have been supported through the philanthropic efforts of I. Chester Cooper, the constituency allowance, and other donors.*



DONATIONS



– I. Chester Cooper

WHAT'S NEXT

“Working for the 365/365”

FIRST 365 DAYS

[ADDRESSING CRITICAL NEEDS]

Within the first 365 days in office during my second term, I will address the urgent initiatives necessary to set us on the right path of achieving the goals set out in eVision 2030.

HOSPITAL

- Properly staff and equip Exuma Community Mini Hospital, with outsourced management if necessary.

ENVIRONMENT

- Remove dilapidated vehicles from Exuma in partnership with private sector organizations.
- Remove sunken barge from Fish Fry.
- Re-establish Elizabeth Harbour Management Committee.

RESTORATION

- Develop branding and produce signage for George Town.
- Continue with the restoration of George Town.
- Continue with the rebuilding of Ragged Island.
- In conjunction with locals, rename Bahama Sound communities.

ROADS + INFRASTRUCTURE

- Pave an additional 30 miles of road
- Develop a comprehensive plan for roadworks that tie into the long-term strategic plan for the Exuma.
- Introduce solar street lighting throughout Exuma, in a phased approach.
- Liaise with the developers to find solution to paving roads and upgrading the infrastructure.

AIRPORT

- Begin construction of new George Town International Airport.
- Increase flights to Nassau and introduce other direct domestic routes, including Grand Bahama.
- Establish direct international flights between sister city destinations.
- Explore extending Black Point runway.

FIRST 365 DAYS

[ADDRESSING CRITICAL NEEDS]

HURRICANE SHELTERS

- Review existing Hurricane Shelters.
- Complete 1st Phase of New Hurricane Shelters.

PORTS OF ENTRY

- New Port of Entry for Black Point or Staniel Cay.
- New Port of Entry for Ragged Island.

EMPOWERMENT

- Ensure the printing of Driver's License and NIB Cards, and complete processing of passports.
- Establish an island-wide mentorship program for young people within communities.
- Promote the establishment of a Credit Union for Commonages to propel development in these communities

TOURISM

- Engage the Ministry of Tourism to heavily promote Exuma Cays as the boating capital of the world for sailing and mega yachts.
- BahamaHost training to be encouraged.

SPORTS FACILITIES

- Identify site and create design for multi-purpose sporting facility.

TRANSPORTATION

- Introduce bussing system with regular routes, throughout Great Exuma
- Increase mailboat service and ensure consistency of schedule.
- Introduce other ferry services for transportation of goods and waste between Nassau, Great Exuma and the Cays

RECYCLING PROJECT

- Work with Exuma Pride to plan and execute cleanup and beautification programs in communities to include the planting of fruit and ornamental trees.



**“I came
into
politics
with a
mission to
empower
the
Bahamian
people”**

– I. Chester Cooper



**eVision 2030 presents
a holistic approach to
people empowerment.**

**With many initiatives
already executed, there
are many more to come,
as Team Cooper creates an
environment for the people
of Exuma, Exuma Cays,
and Ragged Island to
thrive.**

*Every initiative set
forth in eVision 2030
is designed for the
benefit of our people.*

*We are committed to
building a community
that empowers
Bahamians.*

***Empowering
Our People***

JOBS AND JOB READINESS

■ Career Fair:

Team Cooper will host a Career Fair to focus on diversified career opportunities for residents. This includes, but is not limited to, the areas of Entrepreneurship, Agriculture, Tourism and Hospitality, Construction, Technology, Creative, Manufacturing, Maritime, Medical, Finance and Accounting and Real Estate. Our scholarship programs will support targeted industries.

■ Job Opportunities:

With Cooper's background as a seasoned businessman, he will negotiate with new investors to the island for jobs, with growth potential, for Exumians.



ENTREPRENEURSHIP + EMPOWERMENT

■ **Innovative Entrepreneur Competition:**

Create pitch competitions for business innovation where winners receive technical support and potential funding for their plan.

■ **Entrepreneurs Lab:**

An annual all-day networking event will be conducted at the Exuma Youth Empowerment Center [EYEC] to provide guidance to those seeking to become entrepreneurs and to brainstorm business ideas, seek resources and collaborate with one another.

■ **eCommerce Workshop:**

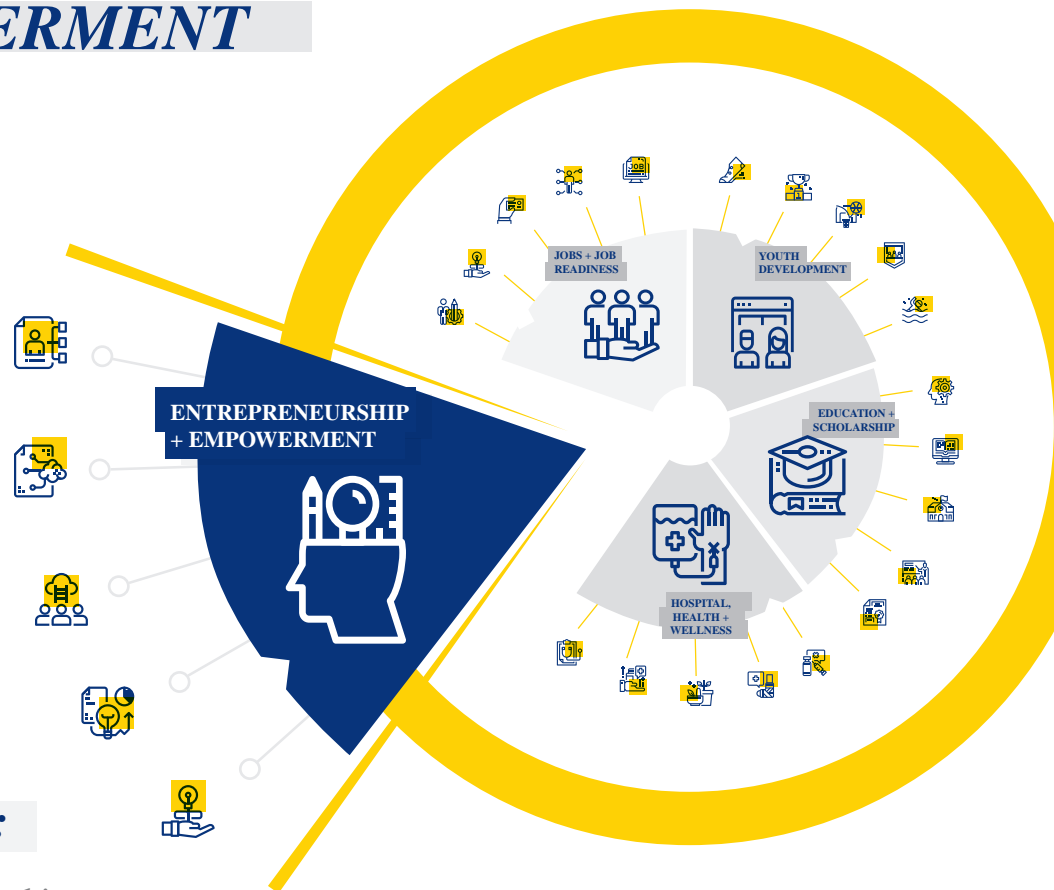
If COVID-19 has taught us anything, it is the need for e-commerce in business. Team Cooper will create opportunities through partnerships to assist entrepreneurs in developing digital platforms.

■ **Funding Opportunities:**

With the plans for the new administration to increase the allocation to small business development, Team Cooper will ensure that entrepreneurs of Exuma and Ragged Island, receive their share.

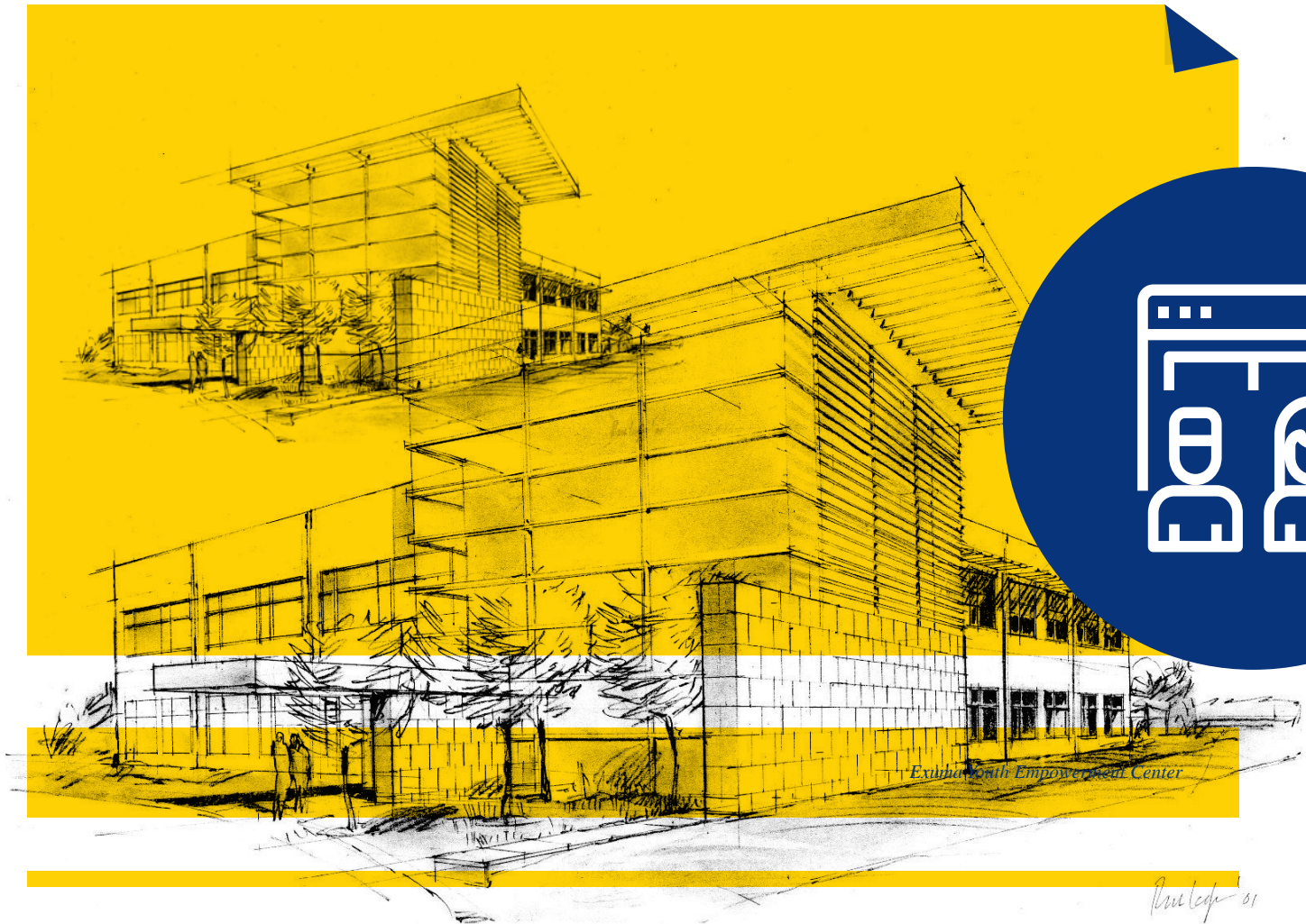
■ **Creative Arts Competition:**

An Exuma Creative Arts Competition will be held to highlight the creative and cultural industry with prizes, a creative study grant, and networking opportunities, for the winners.



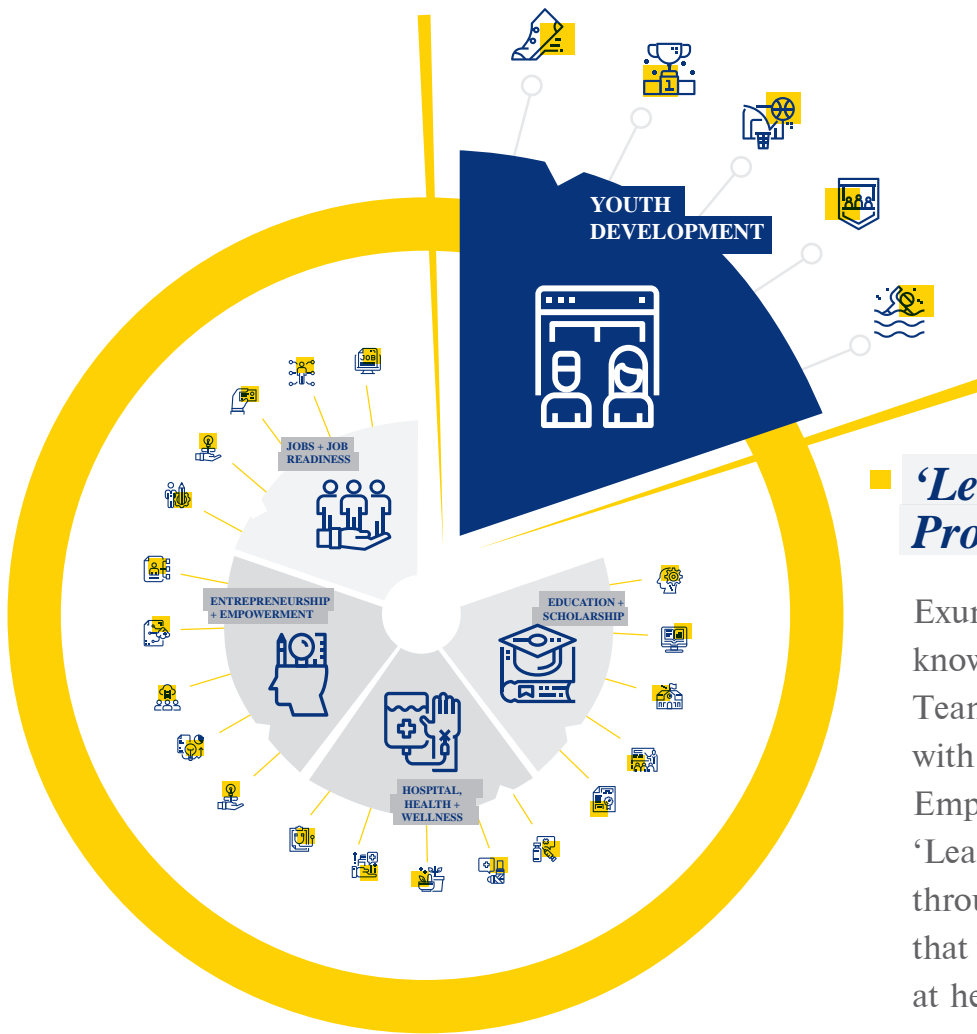


YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



■ ***Exuma Youth Empowerment Center:***

The first phase will include a 5,000 sq. ft. multipurpose center that will be a retreat for the youth of the island, including a 250 seat auditorium, studios, indoor-outdoor café, kitchen, game room, green house for agriculture, studio equipped with computers & modern technology for training in audio-video & music production and graphic design. As the island is within the hurricane belt, the building will be erected with back-up generator and medical clinic to also serve as a hurricane shelter. Exuma's member of parliament personally donated \$10,000 to kick-start the project.



'Learn to Swim' Program:

Exuma and Ragged Island are known for its beautiful waters. Team Cooper will partner with facilitators and the Youth Empowerment Center on their 'Learn to Swim' programs throughout the islands, to ensure that young people, and the young at heart, can learn how to swim.

State-of-the-Art Sporting Facility:

We will construct a state-of-the-art sporting facility for the people of Exuma that create a supportive environment for our athletes, as well as the promotion of sports tourism.

Youth Business Expo:

An annual youth business expo will be produced for youth to exhibit their business ideas and compete for funding to develop those ideas into viable businesses and promote financial literacy.

Creative Arts Competition (Orange Economy):

As Exuma gets set to become a destination for entertainment, Team Cooper will host a Creative Arts Competition, with reference to developing the cultural and creative industries that make up the Orange Economy. The competition will include musicians, DJs, photographers, artists, artisans, and other creatives to find the next great talent for Exuma.

HEALTHCARE + WELLNESS

■ ***New Clinics:***

Establish new clinics in Ragged Island, Black Point, Farmer's Cay and Staniel Cay.

■ ***Partnerships on Healthcare:***

Partner with international organizations on best practices in healthcare and to create an environment that allows Exuma to offer the best in healthcare services to its residents and visitors.

■ ***Fully Functioning Hospital:***

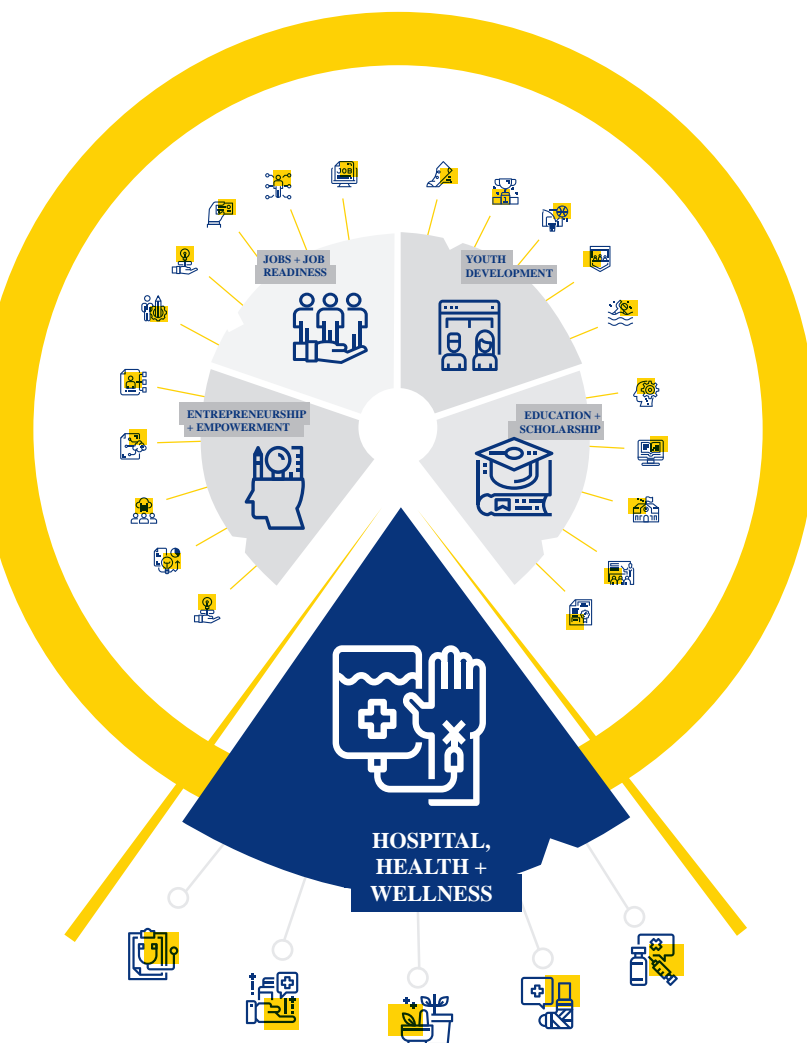
Ensure the opening of the hospital in shortest possible timeframe, with the necessary equipment and staffing to sustain it.

■ ***Medical School:***

Encourage a medical school to establish campus in Exuma.

■ ***Medical Tourism:***

Encourage and promote a vibrant medical tourism industry that includes recovery centers, world class labs, specialist care and elective surgeries e.g. cosmetic.





EDUCATION + SCHOLARSHIP

■ ***Educating After COVID:***

Work with the Ministry of Education, internet providers, and other stakeholders to ensure that students of Exuma, Exuma Cays and Ragged Island are well equipped to keep up with their curriculum, in the event of any future emergency that prevents physical in-class attendance.

■ ***Upgrade Primary School:***

Build a new Primary School in George Town area. Major upgrade and renovation to Black Point All Age School.

■ ***University Campuses:***

Attract international universities to set-up satellite campuses. Work with Exuma Foundation, Friends of Exuma and sister cities, in this regard. Maritime Studies, Environmental Studies, Marine Sciences and Medical Schools will be initially targeted.

■ ***L. N. Coakley High School:***

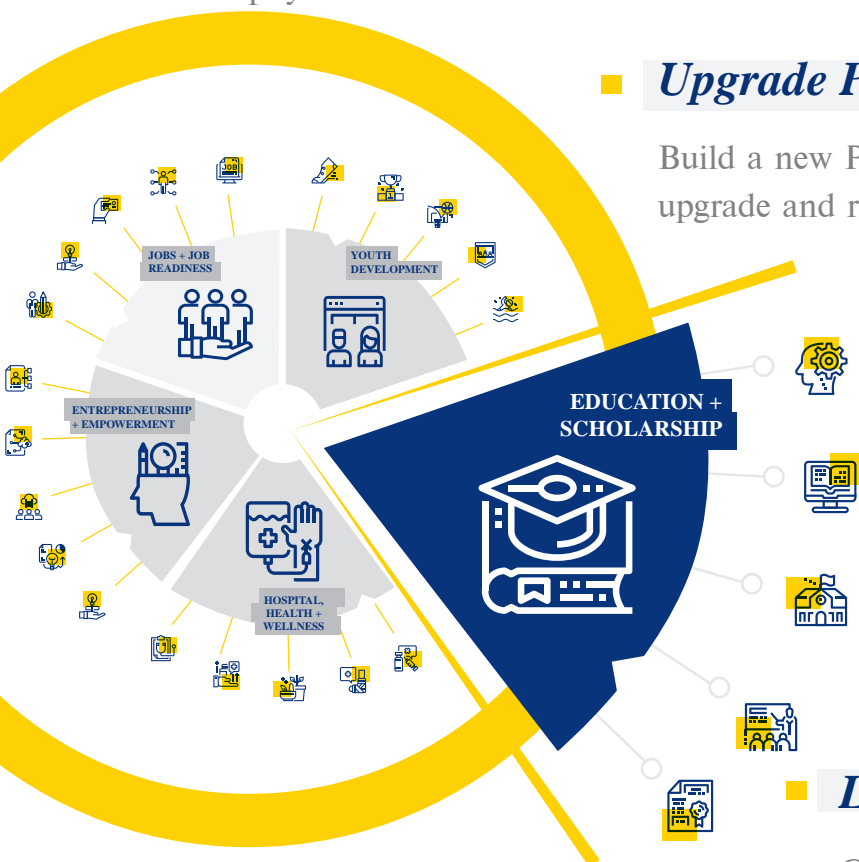
- Construct new classroom blocks, labs, and vocational workshops for the senior school.
- Improve digital infrastructure.
- Hand sanitizing stations provided in each classroom and office area for health and safety in this COVID environment.
- Introduce proper lunch booths for vendors.
- Refurbish track and field stadium, including restoration of the track, and reconstruction of the shed.

■ ***Aviation School:***

Attract an Aviation School working with a university through sister cities.

■ ***Medical School:***

Encourage a medical school to establish campus in Exuma.





EmPOWERing Our Community

We will simultaneously protect our natural environment, fix our broken infrastructure, and create innovative opportunities for residents to not simply live, but to thrive.

Our community development initiatives align with our objectives for sustainable development. We will create an environment that provides every opportunity for communities to grow, but also to remain true to what makes them unique.

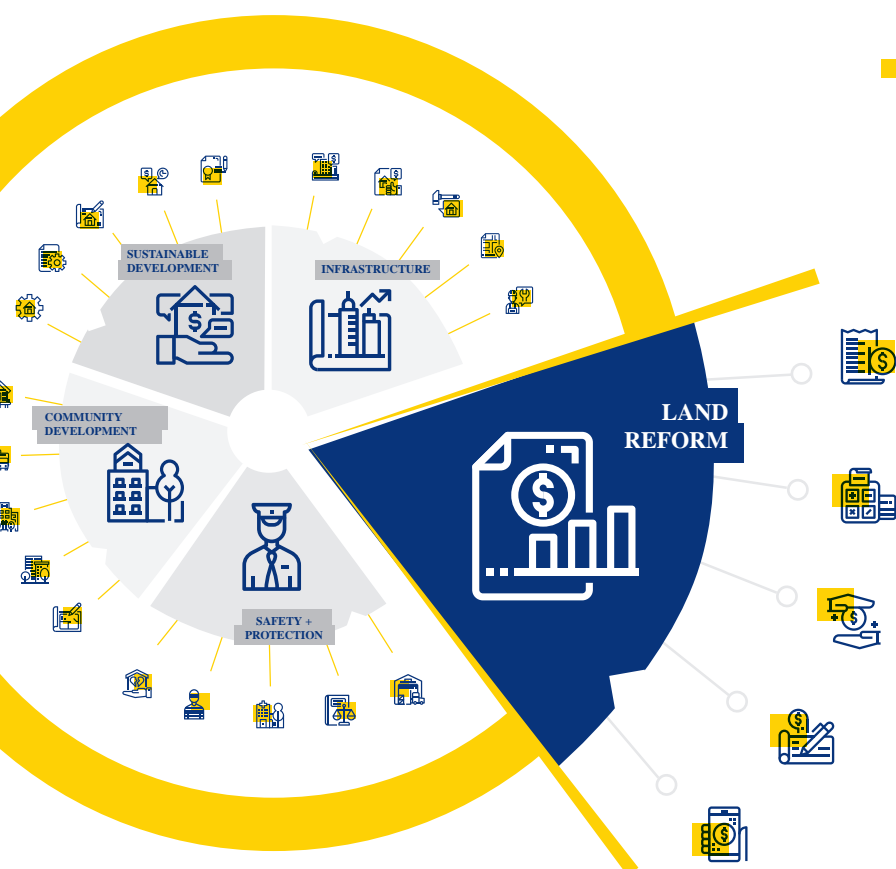
#ExumaProud
#RaggedIslandStrong



LAND REFORM + AFFORDABLE HOUSING

■ *Crown Lands:*

Designate subdivisions where properties may be granted to Bahamians who wish to build primary or second homes. The granting of proper title to subdivisions with infrastructure will instantly create wealth for Bahamian families by allowing them to get financing through financial institutions. Proposed grants (for nominal fees) will come with a requirement to start construction within a specified time or be required to pay full market value for land. This will also spur the construction industry and create jobs.



■ *Commonage Lands:*

Work with Commonage owners to determine best mechanism to commercialize and/or develop vast areas of commonage land. Work to establish a Commonage Credit Union to pool resources and work together to be able to borrow to develop commonage land.

■ *Affordable Housing:*

We will work with private sector developers for the development of affordable homes, and explore creative financing options, like rent-to-own.



INFRASTRUCTURE

Potable

Water SE Exuma

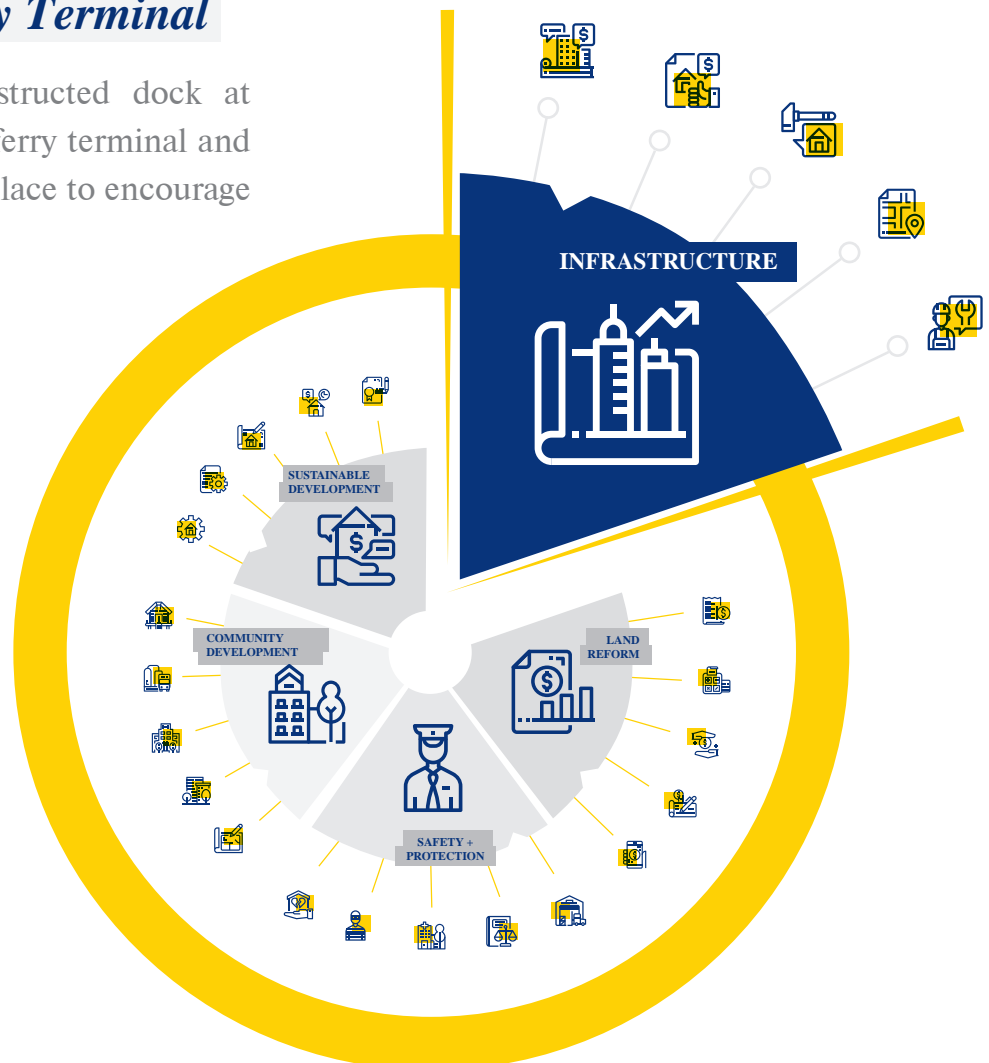
Installation of water mains to provide water to 150 existing homes but will spur development in the areas from Rolle Town to Forbes Hill. Only brackish well water available to residents at this time or filtering using expensive private R/O plants.

Moriah Harbor Project:

Moriah Harbor is a new National park designated by the Government and managed by the Bahamas National Trust. A project is underway to build a landing dock for dinghies, a classroom for the education of students and visitors, as well as walking trails and cabanas. This project is being led by the Exuma Foundation.

Barratterre Ferry Terminal

With the newly constructed dock at Barratterre, develop a ferry terminal and entrepreneurs marketplace to encourage continuous growth.



SAFETY + PROTECTION

Disaster Management + Relief [Hurricane Shelters]

Hurricane Irma has personally showed us the catastrophic damage that can be inflicted on our islands. Hurricane Shelters will be developed at the Exuma Youth Empowerment Center and Forbes Hill Community Center. The building will be erected with back-up generator and space for a medic. Hurricane disaster plans will be implemented, in conjunction with NEMA, the island Administration Office and Local Government to also serve as a hurricane shelter.

Managing Health Crisis Beyond COVID-19

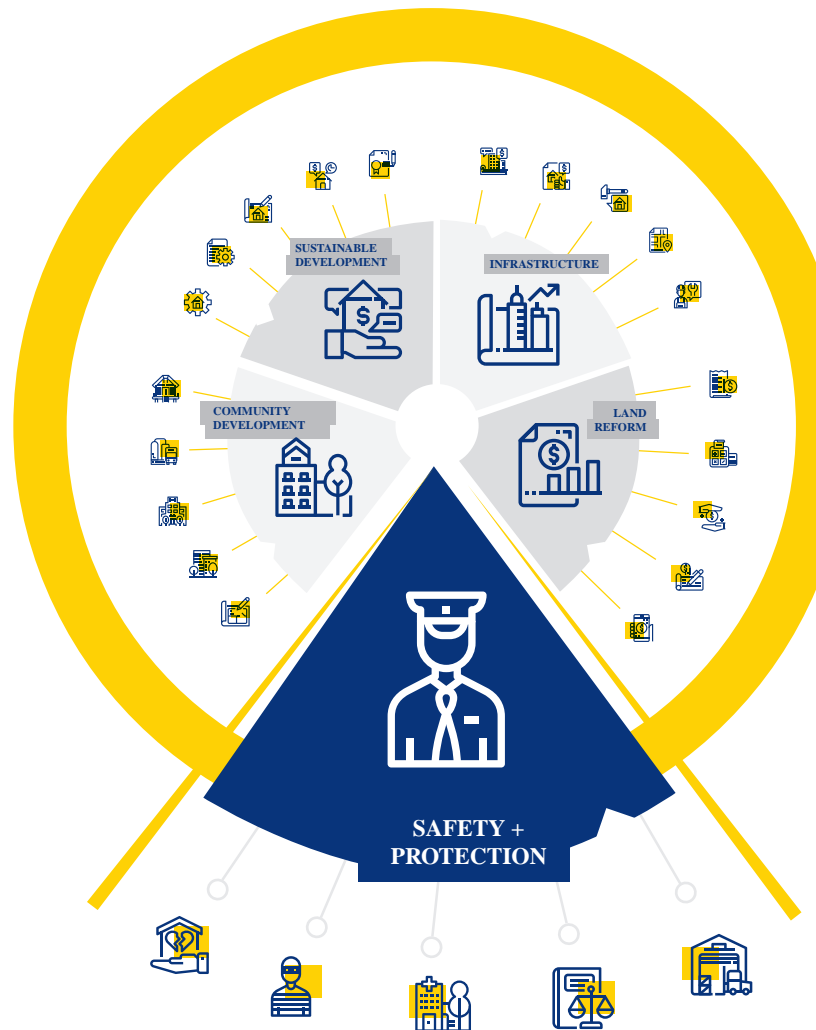
Covid-19 has caused immense damage to The Bahamas tourism brand, economic outlook, and overall economy. It has also put a spotlight on the immediate importance of a robust healthcare system for Great Exuma, as the hub for the Exuma Cays and Ragged Island. A plan will be developed to address the specific strategies to manage healthcare crisis and pandemics for our islands.

Fire/Police Stations

We will lead corporate and community support in a public/private partnership to build a Fire/Police Station at Forbes Hill, Little Exuma and also in George Town. We will also secure the donation of two (2) fire trucks and appropriate training in maintenance and use.

Crime Stoppers:

Create an Exuma branch of Crime Stoppers. Emphasize a collective responsibility to keep Exuma crime free through a “See Something? Say Something!” campaign.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Empower

Local Government:

Local Government must be properly funded and empowered to act on behalf of communities. Local Government must be revamped with more autonomy for basic infrastructural maintenance and management, with specific assignments and a budget that allows much more effective representation. We must bring the power closer to the people with participatory governance!

Foreign Investors/Winter Residents:

Engage the cooperation of local foundations and charities, to develop a system through which investors and part-time residents can make financial donations and volunteer to local non-profits via a single medium that has appropriate independent oversight and governance.

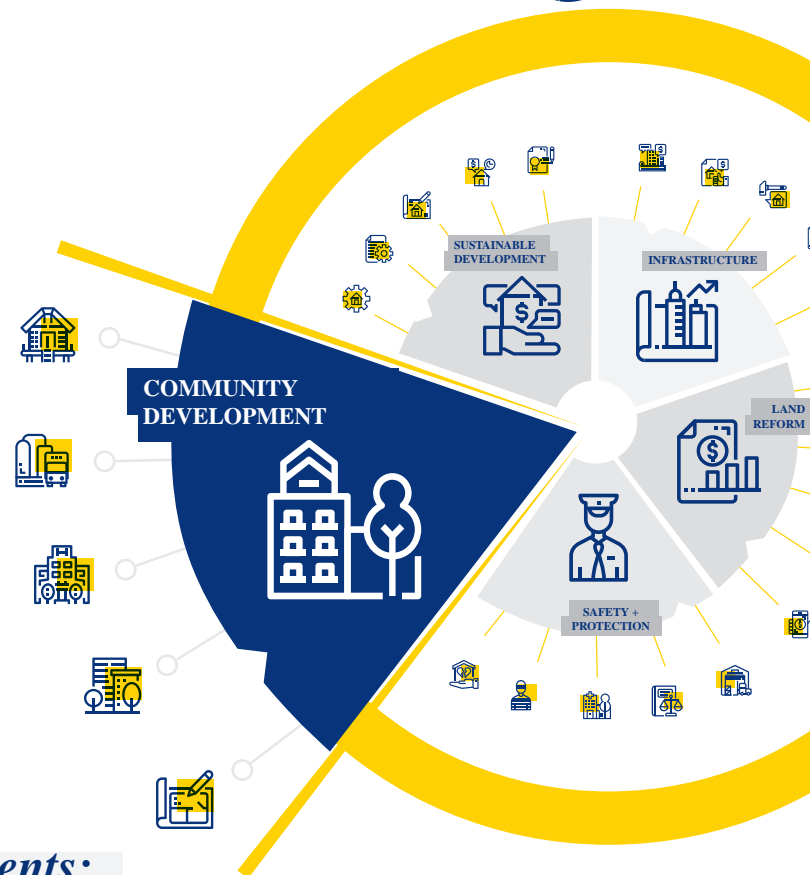
Expansion

of Exuma Pride:

We will expand Exuma Pride to Staniel Cay, Black Point and Farmer's Cay.

Second Homes:

Encourage descendants of Exuma to invest in a second home that will allow them to take advantage of the airbnb and short-term rental market, and increase room capacity for the island.



Community Initiatives:

Leverage business relationships to secure sponsorship and support for community initiatives such as Youth Summer Camps.

Community

Centers:

Working along with Community Associations, transform old schools into Community Centers.



Forbes Hill Cultural Center & Hurricane Shelter

The Cultural Center will be a renovation of the historic Forbes Hill All Age School. Forbes Hill, The Ferry, Harry Cay and the surrounding communities will utilize the multi-purpose venue for variety of reasons, including:

- Weddings, meetings and other social events.
- Youth empowerment center
- Hurricane Shelter & post-hurricane relief distribution
- House a small museum to showcase the history of the area
- Create a craft center
- Opportunities for small business, eg. coffee shop and deli

Forbes Hill Cultural Center



A GLOBAL PLAYER



Sister Cities:

Team Cooper, in collaboration with Exuma Sister Cities will ignite relationships with sister cities to promote business, tourism, cultural, educational and humanitarian exchanges. Existing sister cities include St. Augustine and Miami Dade, both in Florida. The sister city relationship with Nashville, TN is currently in development.

People-to-People:

In conjunction with People-to-People International, we will promote and encourage people-to-people travel experiences to Exuma. This includes humanitarian, cultural, youth programs, and other missions.

Medical

Tourism:

The partnership of government, medical institutions, medical professionals, students, residents and the community at large on making Exuma, the medical tourism hub of The Bahamas.



Direct

Flights:

For easy access to sister cities, lobby for direct flights to service all cities with relationships.

Cultural

Exchanges:

Create a marketplace for locally manufactured products and exchange of arts, including music festivals, Junkanoo in Nashville and Miami, Country in Exuma, folklore and folk-art collaborations.

University

[In-State Tuition]:

Lobby for in-state tuition to Exuma residents who attend sister city universities.

Student Exchanges/

Youth Exchanges:

Student Ambassador Experience, Internships, Virtual Programming, Youth Leadership Summit, Youth Arts and Authors Program,

Professional Exchanges:

Executive Education, Immersive Experiences, and other Professional Exchanges.

Industry Best Practices:

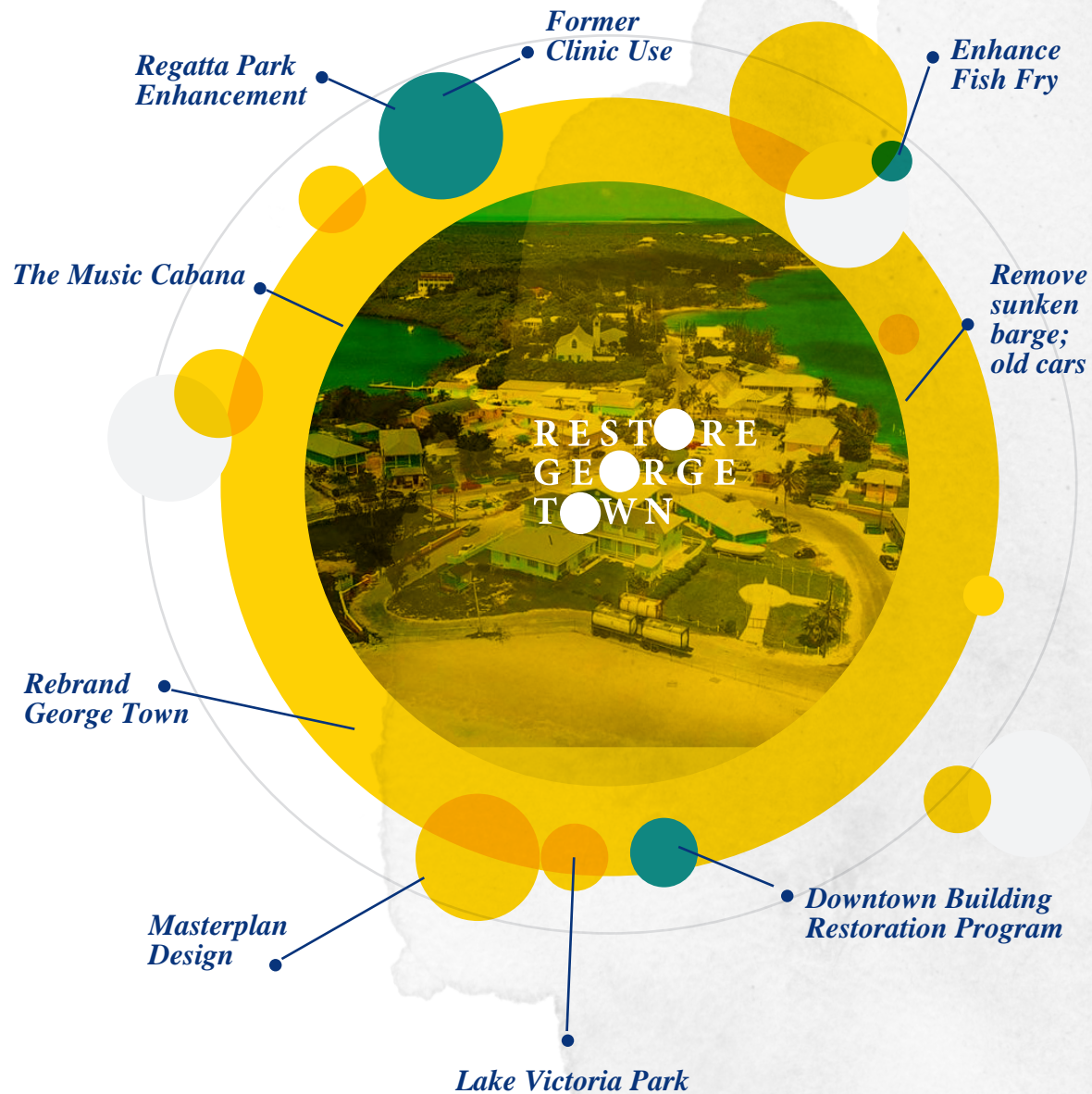
Agriculture, Sustainable Development and the Environment.

Foreign Direct Investment:

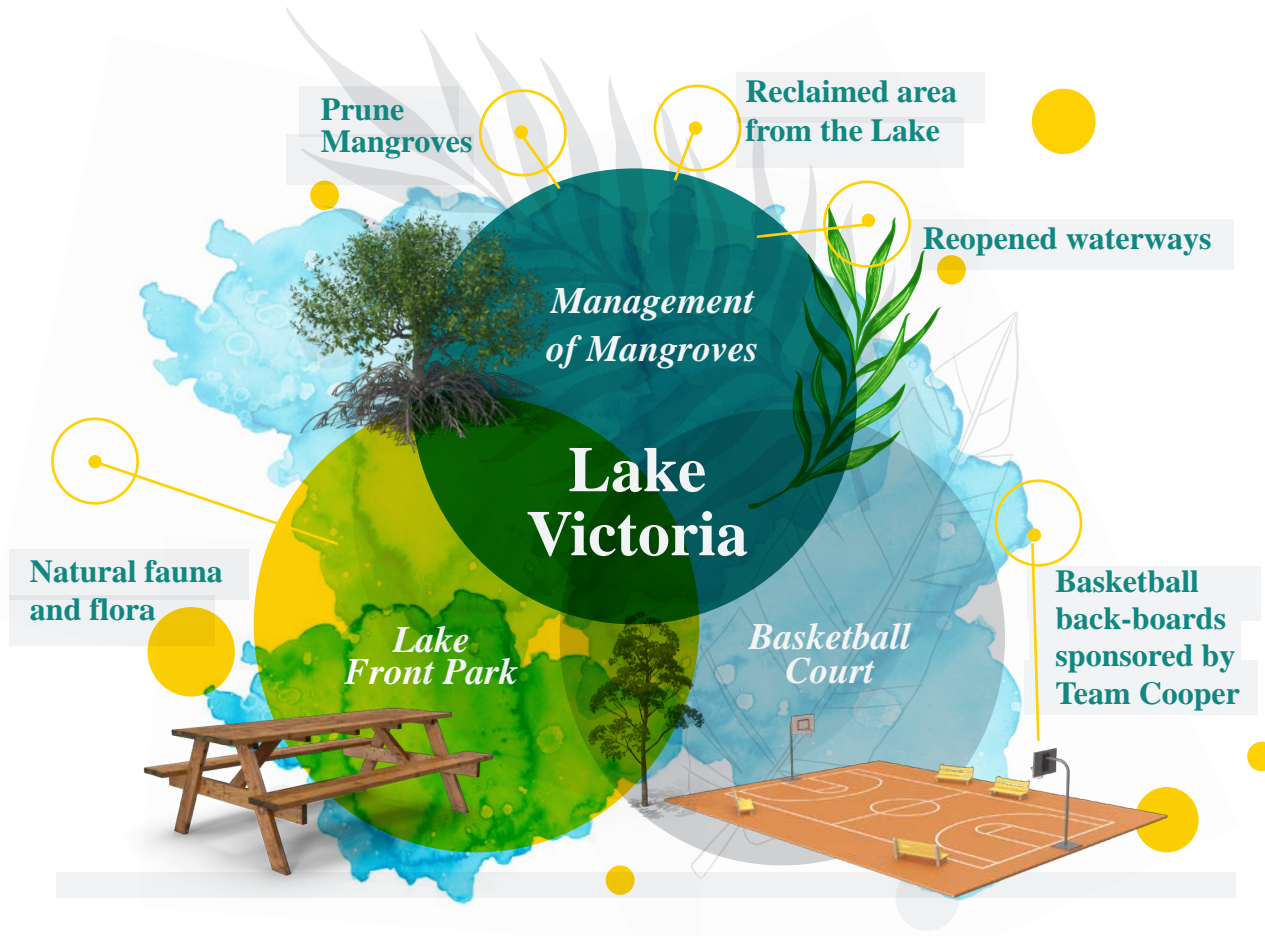
A sister city relationship enhances the possibilities of finding the right-fit international partners for ongoing development of Exuma.



RESTORE GEORGE TOWN



* For the full version of *Restore George Town*:
A Community Partnership visit www.teamcooperexuma.com
or www.exumapride.com.



Area Beautification:

- New Cabana
- Cut verges and replant tree
- Clean the surrounding area
- Roundabout beautification in partnership
- Shade trees and benches
- Demolition of dilapidated building

Masterplan Design:

Complete the masterplan design for the city to define each aspect of redevelopment. This will include Lake Victoria and surrounding areas; extend to Elizabeth Harbor and further extend to the Navy Base, home of the new Port. Enhancement of waterfront developments, throughout the capital, will become even more important, in the masterplan design of Exuma. These new and improved developments will also create an environment for new entrepreneurial projects.



Re-energize George Town:

With the emphasis placed on the restoration of George Town, re-energize the capital with new logo design, signage, and print promotional material.

Downtown Building Restoration Program:

Create a Downtown Building Restoration Program to incentivize structural and decorative building improvements for a restored George Town. This includes demolition of dilapidated buildings, repainting buildings and houses, and beautification initiatives with planters and plants, in Town Center.



Lake Victoria Park:

The Lake will become a focal point for George Town, and bring with its rejuvenation, a whimsical look and feel. From romantic walks on the boardwalk to boat rowing (in partnership with Exuma Sailing Club).



Former Clinic Use:

With the masterplan for George Town, the best use of the Government Building, formally used as the clinic, will be determined to fit into the overall redevelopment plans for the capital.

Enhance Fish Fry:

Create a tourism mecca with an improved Fish Fry experience with new and enhanced Bahamian-owned restaurants, weekly entertainment, and innovative products. With consultation from the wider Exuma community, relocate if necessary.



Regatta Park Enhancement:

As George Town is restored, Regatta Park will receive much needed rejuvenation. This fits into the overall master design, that connects with the significance and use of the site.

The Music Cabana:

Music Heritage to be relaunched, in conjunction with Bahamian musicians and Nashville and Miami Sister Cities music project. This will provide opportunities for Exuma natives to explore music and culturally immersive opportunities with their sister city.



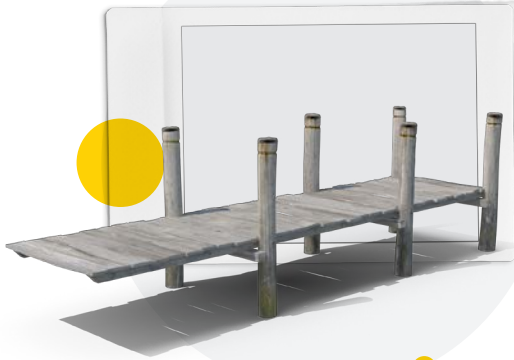
Remove sunken barge; old cars:

For many years, a sunken barge has remained an eye-sore for Exuma. In partnership with Exuma Pride Project, we will ensure that the barge is removed and that the old cars are shipped out.



Relocate Port:

The public dock/mail boat operations is too big for the minimal Downtown George Town space. The relocation of these port operations is proposed for the original Navy Base location that will allow a proper holding area, and better organization of shipping containers.



Relocation of School:

It is proposed that the George Town Primary School transitions out of George Town to crown land near the Navy Base. This will allow greater expansion of school to satisfy the educational needs of the young people of Exuma.



Refurbished Library:

The Library will be renovated and upgraded, in collaboration with sister cities.



Bicycle Lanes:

Introduce bicycle lanes to encourage international cycling.



Inner Harbour for Yachting:

Although a rather costly exercise, the creation of an Inner Harbour will become a significant revenue generator for George Town. Over the years, thousands of boaters enter our waters. As there are no proper facilities for these boaters to come on shore, we are missing a valuable opportunity. The objective is to create a year-round water-front development. This means yachtsmen coming onshore, in a newly developed, authentically Bahamian development will inject funds into the local economy. This initiative can be a public private partnership.



George Town Fire Station / Police Headquarters:

Construct a state of the art fire station and police headquarters with a fire truck, trained personnel and accompanying equipment to service Great Exuma area.

Museum of Exuma:

The story of the History of Exuma must be captured. This includes the significance of Pompey, the history of the Navy Base and others. A key to the development of the museum will come from international partnerships in best practices in the development of museums to create a historical 'revenue generating' experience that highlights Exuma's place in history with the slave trade, Pompey, war planes, sea planes, bombs, magazines, and more. The site of the existing primary school to be earmarked.



REBUILDING RAGGED ISLAND

FIGHTING FOR YOU! ■



As we all know, our beloved Ragged Island and its people, suffered tremendous loss and devastation from Hurricane Irma in September 2017. This current government administration's response to getting Ragged Island where it needs to be has been an absolute failure, and progress has remained at an unacceptable snail slow pace.

Ragged Island deserves better! Infrastructure and communities need to not only be restored, but should be developed to create an economic engine that presents opportunities for the people of Ragged Island. Your member of parliament has consistently advocated on your behalf, and will continue to do so, as we work to bring about sustained economic development for Ragged Island.

FIGHTING FOR YOU!



Advocacy

I. Chester Cooper has utilized every opportunity to highlight the cries of Ragged Island. He will continue to vigorously fight until victory is achieved. Our clinic, our school, our police station and administration building must be rebuilt.

Town Hall

A Town Hall Meeting was held in Duncan Town to discuss the way forward for Ragged Island. Though the community has been ignored by the government for the past 5 years, Chester Cooper continues to advocate on behalf of the people of Ragged Island. The Town Hall focused on Hurricane Restoration; Community Center; Expanding the Fishing Industry; and Hurricane Shelter.

Hurricane Restoration

Team Cooper has donated supplies to repair the Anglican Church which was used as a hurricane shelter as well as the Mission House. In addition, we have donated two freezer trailers to support the expansion of the fishing industry.

Solar Project

With the solar project completed, we will rebrand Ragged Island as an ecotourism destination to augment its fishing, heritage and salt industries.

Operation ‘Restore Ragged Island’

Like Exuma Pride, we will create a comprehensive and sustainable program that greatly impacts Ragged Island’s growth and development.

Port of Entry

Develop a Port of Entry for Ragged Island and promoted boating.

Airlift

Encourage weekly commercial airservice for Ragged Island between both Nassau and Exuma.

Fishing Capital of the South

Promote Ragged Island as the Fishing Capital of the South, with special focus on Game Fishing.

Salt Product Industry

Promote the ‘Product of Ragged Island’, and incentivize the Salt Product Industry’.

Promote the cottage industry with ‘Salt Spas’, and other spin-off opportunities.

Heritage Tourism

With Ragged Island’s rich history including the devastating sinking of the Flamingo and trade with Cuba, diversify its tourism offerings.

Eco-Tourism

The ecological advantages of Ragged Island is well established to be heavily promoted as an ‘Eco-tourism Escape’. We will partner with the Ministry of Tourism to achieve this.

Fire Fighting Equipment

Equip Ragged Island with five (5) fire bowsers.

FIGHTING FOR YOU!



SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



With the rapid growth of the island of Exuma and the rebuilding of Ragged Island, a master plan is currently in development to be adopted by the people of Exuma and Ragged Island, through engagement and focus groups. The design will forecast the future growth of the island, over the next 30 years and receive cross sector support from all stakeholders. The plan will engage appropriate consultants to crystalize and finalize previous work done by the Government and others, including Harvard University.

Plan For Each Community

Each community of Exuma is unique. We will lead the development of the framework for small industries in each community to encourage growth. For Example, from exploring and capitalizing on the Salt ponds in Williams Town to promoting the dual use of the High School at Moss Town to bring a university to the island; to formalizing eco tourism in the Cays, eVision 2030 will contain a detailed development plan for each local community with focus on both social and economic development.

Brand Recognition

It must also be recognized that some of Exuma's fortunes will come as increasing numbers of tourists seek alternative, unspoilt destinations within the Bahamas. Work with the Government and business community to ensure adequate marine equipment available to properly police vast territory from Highbourne Cay to Ragged Island, to protect the reputation of Exuma as the "boating capital" as well as the fisheries and marine resources of the region.

Development Opportunities

Development opportunities in entrepreneurship are endless, including housing developments, airbnb, airport hotels, commuter airlines, taxi/tours, rental, etc.

Invest Exuma + Ragged Island

Create the framework, in conjunction with the Bahamas Investment Authority, for an investment strategy specific Exuma, Exuma Cays and Ragged Island. Create an environment for Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) through Infrastructure Investment Funds.

Promote Exuma + Ragged Island

Work with Ministry of Tourism, the Bahamas and Tourism Association (BHTA), industry partners and the Exuma Chamber of Commerce to leverage the popularity and uniqueness of Exuma. Promote the Exuma Cays as the boating capital of the world for sailing and mega yachts, and Ragged Island for fishing (game) and eco-tourism.

Business-Friendly

Work with Local Government leaders and committees to ensure that Exuma is most efficient in terms of speed and efficiency in issuing approvals and work permits to encourage planned and sustainable development on the island.

Communications

Consistent, reliable, first-class internet and cable services are needed for Exuma and Ragged Island. Improvement in services is a must.

Tourism



Enhance the ‘Swimming Pigs’ Experience

Work with the government and local interests to introduce a system of regulations to protect the pigs and environment while expanding the earning potential of the attraction as a park. This would create jobs for park wardens, tour guides and other staff; create business opportunities for souvenir vendors and encourage organized stopovers in nearby Cays which will increase business to local restaurants and bars.

Bahamian-Ownership: Bed N Breakfast

Increase number of tourist beds through home rentals and Bed and Breakfast. Educate homeowners on these growing markets and encourage them to engage the market. We will arrange for assistance with funding via the Venture Capital Fund, Bahamas Development Bank (BDB) and local financial institutions to ready homes for rent.

Tourism

Domestic Tourism

Exuma is one of the islands of The Bahamas that comes to mind when Bahamians think of vacationing at home. With enhanced offerings, affordable prices, and the introduction of entertainment, we will promote Exuma experiences for Bahamians, to allow Exumians to benefit from the inherent opportunities.

Aviation and Transportation



Southern Aviation Hub of The Bahamas

Make Exuma the southern aviation hub for The Bahamas and a connector of other Caribbean destinations. This will also position Exuma to receive international express packages.

Airlift

To meet the growing demands for airlift, work with Bahamasair to offer jet service at least three (3) times per day to Exuma and create a hub for Southern Bahamas. Encourage Western Air and other small airlines and entrepreneurs to establish Exuma as its hub to service the South and Central Bahamas from Eleuthera to Inagua. Also, seek to establish direct flights with destinations with sister city relationships, e.g. Nashville, TN and St. Augustine, FL.

Ferry Services

Consistent, reliable, ferry services between mainland and cays is a must for sustainable economic development. With Exuma accounting for 365 of the 700 islands of The Bahamas, there is also a need for increased barges and mail boats to service between mainland of Nassau, Exuma and the Exuma Cays.

Bus/Taxi

As Exuma grows, movement of residents without transportation, at an affordable price is important. We will introduce a limited bussing system, and also enhance taxi services on island.

Agriculture



Becoming self-sufficient with the ability to feed ourselves is a must, and Exuma has a rich history of being able to do this. A program will be developed with considerable investment into the strategic development of the agricultural industry in Exuma.

Natural Resources



We will encourage the light-manufacturing of natural resources, such as sea salt, fish and fruit, for distribution throughout The Bahamas.

The Environment



We will ensure protection of the environment and sacred spaces. As Lake Elizabeth is home to an abundance of mangroves, we will ensure that pruning is carried out in an environmentally-friendly way.

Creative Industry (Orange Economy)



As the Home of Regatta, Exuma will become an entertainment destination for world class festivals and events – a melting pot for creatives. We will make Exuma a place where creatives can thrive!

Blue Economy



Exuma and Ragged Island are home to the most beautiful waters of The Bahamas, a thriving fishing industry, and a get-away for boaters. With the development of the Inner Harbor, and with sailing as the National Sport of The Bahamas a bustling blue economy will be achieved.

Exuma is blessed to have 365 of the 700 islands of the Bahamas making it a natural mecca for sustainably developed and environmentally sound marine-related activities, particularly in the Exuma Cays.

- Work with government and local stakeholders for a sustainable long-term land use plan for the island.

- Work with all stakeholders to develop an environmental and sustainable development policy specific to Exuma that compliments the national policy and protects the uniqueness of Exuma.

- Work with Bahamas National Trust and leverage previous works like Harvard University's 'Sustainable Exuma' project.

- Collaborate with Local Government to develop proper protocols for management and protection of marine resources e.g. Elizabeth Harbour.

- Identify and encourage Universities to establish a School of Sustainable Development (e.g. UWI, Harvard, sister city university, etc.) and Schools of Marine Sciences in the Exuma Cays.

- Increase enforcement of healthy marine practices by training and (hiring) engaging wardens as well as educating the public on the importance of our national marine park.

- Engage the diaspora of Exuma and Ragged Island who can assist with the further growth and development of these islands, and to always be ready to welcome them back home.

- Encourage AirBnBs, new normal of tourism, as search for Covid-safe accommodations.

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT





PLP LEGACY

Core Values

The PLP, after 68 years of existence, core values remain intact, in today's ever changing world. We remain focused on the party's philosophy and preamble of bringing help and hope to the Bahamian people, and creating opportunities for all – empowerment, upliftment, improved standard and quality of living and social justice.



The PLP Built The Modern Bahamas

Not only is the PLP the party of the people, but it is also the party that brought about landmark initiatives, without support by the official opposition:

- ✓ Ushered in Majority Rule [1967]
- ✓ Bahamas Independence [1973]
- ✓ Secondary Education for All Bahamians
- ✓ The Royal Bahamas Police Force
- ✓ The Royal Bahamas Defence Force
- ✓ National Insurance Board
- ✓ Central Bank of The Bahamas
- ✓ The College of The Bahamas; Chartering University of The Bahamas
- ✓ Launch of National Health Insurance
- ✓ Establishment of Bahamas Agriculture & Marine Science Institute
- ✓ National Training Agency

These, coupled with many other institutional achievements, makes the PLP the best political organization to take this country forward with 'people-driven' policies. Our contract with the citizens of The Bahamas is to continue to fight for the empowerment of our people; improve the standard of living; enhance quality of life; and create new industries for sustainable development.



With a native Exumian as Deputy Leader, Exuma is on track to have its first Deputy Prime Minister.

As we did in Opposition, we will shamelessly fight for the development of Exuma, Exuma Cays and Ragged Island.



“The PLP is an institution that builds institutions.”

I. Chester Cooper, M.P.
Deputy Leader, Progressive Liberal Party
Exuma, Exuma Cays & Ragged Island

JOIN THE TEAM



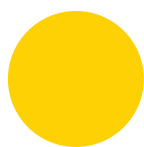
**SUPPORT
THE
MISSION**

DONATE:

www.teamcooperexuma.com/icc/donate

- Accountability Assurance
- Tax-Compliant Foundations
- Pay by Credit Card or Paypal

BECOME INVOLVED TODAY



Join Team Cooper in our commitment to developing Exuma, Exuma Cays and Ragged Island by becoming a volunteer, joining a committee or financially supporting a community project:

- | | | |
|----|---|--------------------------|
| 01 | A Plan for a Sustainable Exuma and Ragged Island | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 02 | Barratterre Ferry Terminal (Entrepreneurs' Marketplace) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 03 | Bahamas Entrepreneur Fund (Funding for Small Entrepreneurs) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 04 | EPP - Elizabeth Harbour Management | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 05 | EPP - Lake Victoria Restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 06 | Exuma Food Bank | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 07 | Exuma Pride Project (EPP) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 08 | Exuma Youth Empowerment Center (and Hurricane Shelter) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 09 | Forbes Hill Cultural Center (and Hurricane Shelter) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 | Louise Cooper Scholarship Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 | Moriah Harbour Project | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 | Potable Water SE Exuma | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 | Rebuilding Ragged Island | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 | Restore George Town | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- **Accountability Assurance:** All donations to be made to the Bahamas Empowerment Fund with reference to the selected project. Ask us for payment instructions if you want your payment to be made via a registered 501(c) 3 corporation in the USA or a registered non-profit entity in Canada; for tax purposes.





#TeamCooper





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Reach us on Social Media:



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Team Cooper – Chester Cooper



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Schedule an Office Visit:

Louise Cooper Center,
George Town, Exuma

Office Hours:

9:00am – 5:00pm
[Monday – Friday]



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