



# THE FLAME

**THE FLAME**  
Keeping the Diaspora FIRED UP

ISSUE 4 • DECEMBER 2024



*Welcome to the fourth edition of “The Flame”*

## *The PNP Diaspora Newsletter*

The PNP’s Annual conference is always an exciting experience, but 2024 was electrifying! A contingent of 30 members of the Diaspora journeyed to Kingston to participate in the private and public sessions of the 86<sup>th</sup> annual conference and participate they did. The speeches were thrilling, the crowd was massive and the energy in the National Arena was exhilarating. The Party accommodated the Diaspora delegates in fine style.

2025 will be an intense and pivotal year for the PNP at home and abroad as general elections are constitutionally due by September, 2025 – please stand by to support your noble Party wherever in the world you reside! Happy New Year!

**Donate to the PNP**

<https://jm.wipay2.me/DonateToPNP>



## NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

- 86<sup>th</sup> Annual PNP Conference
- Local Government By-Election
- Diaspora Region 7
- Diaspora Region Flow Chart
- Leader of the Opposition Visit to Canada
- Canada – Zone 2 Diaspora Region
- Northeast USA Region
- Michael Manley Centenary
- Condolences – Jackie Robothom



**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**

from Team PNP

**Mark Golding, MP**

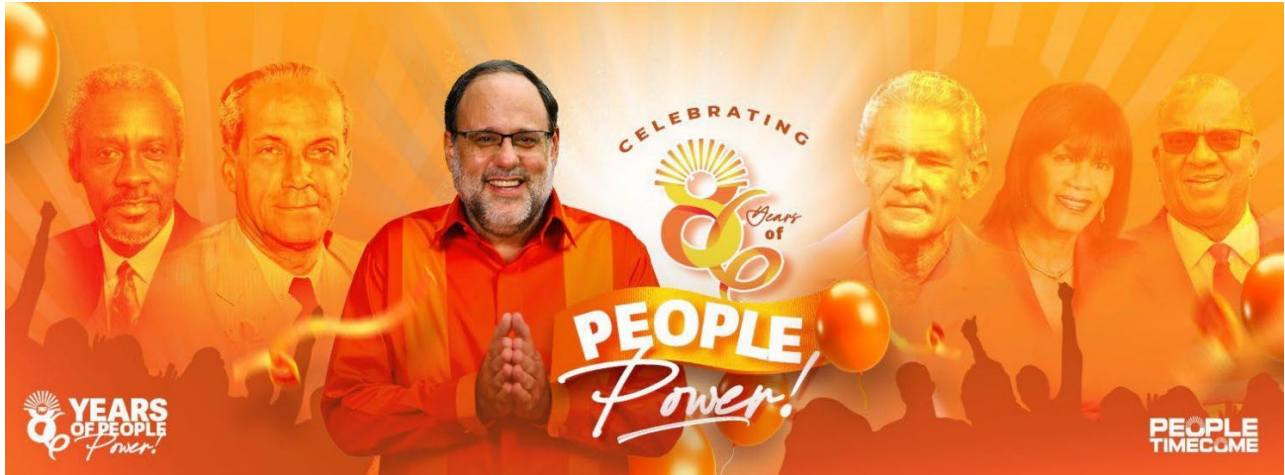
PNP PRESIDENT  
OPPOSITION LEADER

**PEOPLE  
TIMECOME**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NomfQOV2mzw>



## HIGHLIGHTS CONFERENCE 2024



**Members of the Diaspora with Comrade Horace Dalley, Co-chair of the PNP International & Diaspora Affairs Commission on 1<sup>st</sup> day of the private session of the 86<sup>th</sup> Annual PNP Conference, September, 2024**





**L-R: Comrades John T. Hodgson – Commissioner City of Lauderhill(FL); Wykham McNeil – Candidate North Trelawny; Comrade Leader Mark J. Golding, MP; Mrs. Marie Hodgson (FL)**



**Inside National Arena – 86th Annual Conference, September, 2024**



**The view on the jumbotron outside the National Arena of the arrival of Party Leader Mark J. Golding at the public session at the 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference September, 2024.**



## By Elections- November, 2024

The Government of Jamaica called By-Elections on November 22, 2024 in Trelawny and St. Andrew and in the Aenon Town (Clarendon) and Morant Bay (St. Thomas) divisions. The PNP did not contest the parliamentary elections with General Elections due in such a short time, likewise the Party did not contest the stand-alone By-Election held in Northeast St. Ann in September, 2024.

The PNP won both divisions they contested in November, and welcomes Councillor Delroy Dawson (Aenon Town) and Councillor Rose Marie Shaw (Morant Bay) as the representatives for those divisions.



The Polls continue to show the PNP rising in support to form the next government of Jamaica



# REGION 7 DIASPORA MEMBERSHIP



The People's National Party's Diaspora Region continues to organize its structure. Membership in the PNP now extends to those who live overseas. We invite all interested Comrades outside of Jamaica to:

1. Apply for membership directly on the Party's website  
<https://pnp.org.jm/the-diaspora>
2. Select areas where you wish to share your expertise and/or serve the Party.

Diaspora Membership applications have been submitted to the Party's Secretariat and as of the end of October, there were 30 applicants for Direct Diaspora Membership. The Secretariat will contact applicants with missing information. Please continue to apply for direct membership to the Party online at <https://pnp.org.jm/the-diaspora/>. Remember that the Diaspora is now the seventh Region in the Party and is structured similar to the Regions on the island – 2025 will see elections for various positions in the Region and presents the opportunity for those Party supporters living outside Jamaica to become directly involved in the Party.

The Diaspora Region encompasses the entire world of Jamaicans who live overseas. The Region is subdivided into Six Zones that are further subdivided into Divisions. Each tier will have its own leadership structure and worldwide opportunities for participation at all levels and designated seats for the Party's existing affiliates. The Diaspora Region will operate as the other six Regions in Jamaica. The Diaspora will have the opportunity to vote in internal Party elections (1 Diaspora vote = 25%); draft resolutions and policy recommendations; and serve on Party Commissions and Committees.

**Members of the Diaspora are now serving on the Party's Commissions, Committees and Task Forces.**

PEOPLE  
TIMECOME

Diaspora Region

Zone 1 - United States

Zone 2 – Canada

Zone 3 – UK & Europe

Zone 4 – Africa

Zone 5 – Latin America & Caribbean

Zone 6 – Other

Division SE

Division A

Division – London

Division – Latin America

Division NE

Division B

Division – Birmingham

Division – Caribbean

Division West

Division – Continent



## LEADER OF OPPOSITION VISIT TO CANADA

Mark J. Golding, MP paid a three-day visit (October 30 – November 1, 2024) in his capacity as Leader of the Opposition to the Jamaican Diaspora in Toronto, Canada. The Leader and his delegation: Andre Hylton – Chair of the Outreach Commission; Christopher Henry – Junior Spokesperson Foreign Affairs and Peta-Gay Ferguson – Communication Coordinator visited the Ontario Legislative Assembly in Queens Park, Toronto; participated in a Town Hall at the Jamaican Canadian Association; toured the community known as “Little Jamaica” in Eglington and attended a dinner-dance in Toronto. The community’s response to the Leader was overwhelming and Leader Golding enjoyed meeting and interacting with Jamaicans overseas from all walks of life.



**Leader Golding and his delegation with members of the Canadian organizing committee at Queens Park, Ontario Legislative Assembly, Toronto**



*Photo courtesy of Matthew Pompey*

**Walking Tour of “Little Jamaica” – Eglinton, Ontario**  
 L-R: Leader of the Opposition Mark J. Golding, MP; Ms. Angelina Williams – Planning Committee; Ms. Masani Montague – Planning Committee; Andre Hylton – Delegation; Chris Henry – Delegation.



**Members of the Canadian planning committee with the Leader of the Opposition at the Dinner in his honor in Toronto, Canada**



**ZONE 2 CANADA– PNP DIASPORA**

Canada is Zone 2 of the PNP Diaspora Region 7. Comrades Sharon Folkes-Abrahams and Shari-Ann Henry are the temporary Zone Co-Chairs for Canada until elections are held in 2025. *If you are a Comrade in Canada or know Comrades in Canada, please reach out to get involved. Sharon – 437-299-6427 or Shari-Ann – 437-577-4493*



**L-R Sharon Folkes-Abrahams and Shari-Ann Henry, Zone 2 (Canada) Co-chairs, PNP Diaspora Region 7**

## NORTHEAST UNITED STATES DIVISION

As the Diaspora Region moves forward with organizing the structure to integrate into the Party and the other Regions in Jamaica, the temporary Co-Chairs of the Northeast USA Division – Comrades Angella Francis and Michael Wiltshire convened an in-person meeting of Comrades in the Northeast in Queens, New York on November 16, 2024. The guest speaker was Dahlia Walker-Huntington, co-chair of the Party's International & Diaspora Affairs Commission. The comrades learned about the Diaspora Region structure and how to become direct Diaspora Members of the Party and had their questions and concerns answered.



**Temporary Division Chairs for the Northeast USA -Diaspora Region Michael Wiltshire and Angella Francis (2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> from left) seen here with Sherron Wiltshire in New York supporting our Grenadian brothers and sisters.**

*If you are in the Northeast USA or know a comrade in the Northeast – please contact Michael 646-510-2533 or Angella 917-474-9768 to get involved with the PNP.*

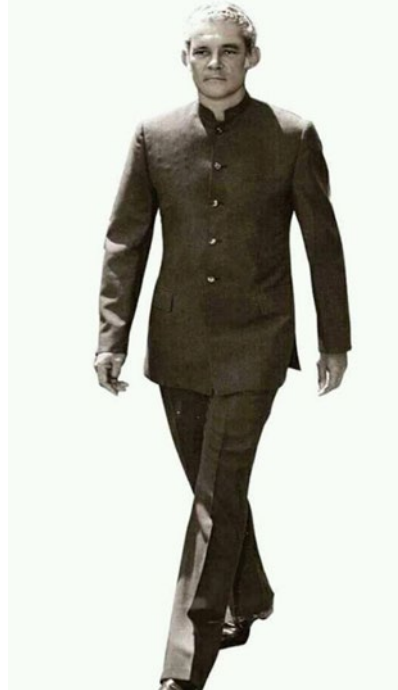
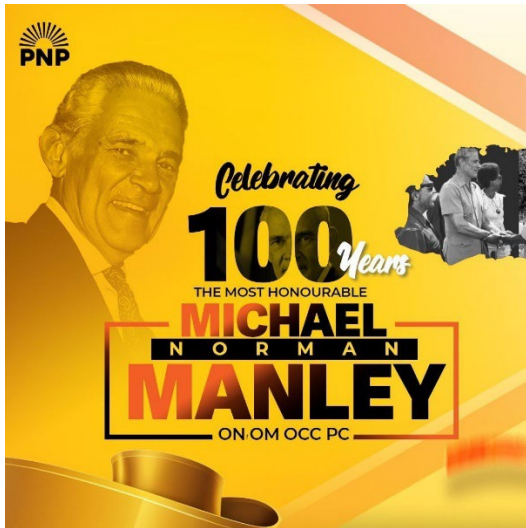
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**COMRADE LINK UP**  
**QUEENS, NEW YORK**  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2024**  
*Angella Francis 917-474-9768 for info*



# MICHAEL MANLEY CENTENARY YEAR

December 10, 2024 marked the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Jamaica's fourth Prime Minister and former leader of the People's National Party, the Most Hon. Michael Norman Manley. The day was celebrated with several events in Kingston including a Wreath Laying ceremony at National Heroes Park, a Reception at the National Workers Union, a lecture delivered by Barbados Prime Minister Hon Mia Mottley and a Centenary Dinner. Tributes poured in for the beloved Michael Manley who inspired a nation to greatness and whose contributions to Jamaica will never be forgotten.

Stay tuned for celebrations across the Diaspora in the coming year. Hail The Man!





**PARTY LEADER MARK J. GOLDING, MP LAYING A WREATH AT THE MICHAEL MANLEY MEMORIAL AT NATIONAL HEROES PARK**



**COMRADE LEADER MARK J. GOLDING, MP; PARTY CHAIRMAN DR. ANGELA BROWN-BURKE; PARTY GENERAL SECRETARY DR. DAYTON CAMPBELL AND MEMBERS OF THE PNP GATHERED BEFORE THE MICHAEL MANLEY MEMORIAL AT NATIONAL HEROES PARK, KINGSTON, JAMAICA.**





**L-R: Senator Gabriella Morris and Dahlia Walker-Huntington Co-chair PNP International & Diaspora Affairs Commission at National Heroes Park**

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MICHAEL MANLEY LECTURE – LITTLE THEATRE

Delivered by Prime Minister of Barbados – Hon. Mia Mottley



**Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley sharing a light moment with the President of the People's National Party, Mark J. Golding, MP at the Little Theatre in Kingston on December 10<sup>th</sup> at the Michael Manley Centenary Lecture**



**Barbados Prime Minister Hon. Mia Mottley delivering the Michael Manley Centenary Lecture at the Little Theatre, Kingston**



## ***Gone Too Soon – Jackie Robothom***



The PNP Diaspora Region lost a stalwart supporter on October 25, 2024 - Jacqueline Aissa Robotham-Downer. Jackie was eager to participate in the PNP Diaspora activities and ensured that she was present in Long Island in July, 2022 with the President of the PNP Mark J. Golding, MP when he and his delegation visited. She made contact with PNP supporters all over the United States and kept them in touch with each other with her Group – “Comrades We Seh”. She was ready to be totally involved with the PNP Diaspora Region and it was with deep sadness that we received the report of her passing.

***Flame Editor***

Jackie was born on January 10, 1965 to Upton & Winsome Robotham, their fourth daughter. She attended St. Andrew Prep, Junior and High Schools and she later went on to Shortwood Teachers’ College, following in her mother’s footsteps of teaching.

To know Jackie was to love her. She loved her biological family and everyone she came in contact with. She loved children, and this was very evident in the recent donations she made for her Back to School effort she did in September at the recent memorial celebration for her only child, Kristin who predeceased her.

Her Passion – Jamaican politics – ooooh she loved politics and the People’s National Party. In her home – everything she had was orange! She became a member of many PNP political groups in the New York area, such as The Ormond Theodore Norman Washington United and Jamaica National Movement. She made long lasting friendships with Comrades in the United States and her family thanks everyone for the joy they brought her while she served.

Jackie was a committed Team Jamaica Bickle Member and always marked her calendar for the Annual Penn Relays, where she volunteered for many years. Based on the vibes, she got the rest of her siblings/family/friends volunteering and assisting in other activities of the Group. Despite her love for Jamaica College, she also took care of the Kingston College Team at the Penn Relays. Jackie was a “community person – family, friends, circle of friends – always giving and helping others, she embodied the traits of a committed community person.

One of the last things she shared with all three siblings were telephone calls to say “thank you and I love you.”

Her family thanks the many friends and relatives, many of whom traveled from far and wide to attend her funeral in Jamaica to pay respect to a beautiful, kind and loving soul – gone in the wink of an eye, too soon – but is at rest and at peace in the circle with her mother and father, her brother David and her heartbeat, her daughter Kristin.

In OUR hearts, Jackie will remain forever and ever! Let us not remember days but remember the moments!

***The Family***