



# THE NEWSLETTER



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## NATIONAL SCHOOLS' POLICY ON DRUGS

**W**ith the commencement of the new academic year in September 2010, officials of the Drug Control Secretariat are reminding Principals, Staff and Students of the School's Policy on Drugs.

According to the Secretariat in accordance with the National School's Policy on Drugs, "The Ministry of Education expressly forbids the use, sale and distribution of alcohol and alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, hemp, controlled drugs or any mood-altering substances by or at any school function.'

The Secretariat is also informing students that in accordance with the Policy, 'Students are prohibited from using, being under the influence of, possessing, distributing, selling, or being in the chain of sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, hemp, controlled drugs, drug paraphernalia, while at school, or at any school-sponsored event.'

The Policy, which was approved by cabinet in 2002, has four principal goals:- To promote a healthy lifestyle among students, free of drug use; To provide a mechanism for the appropriate identification of alcohol, tobacco and drug-

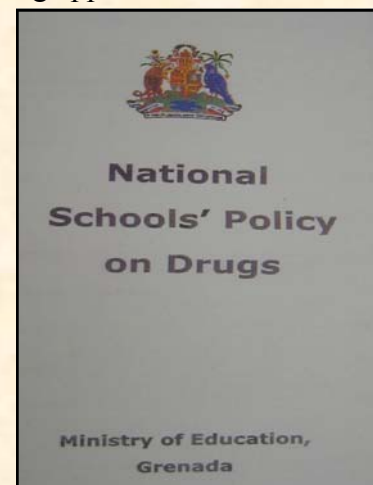
related problems, and early intervention among students; To provide firm, consistent, and equitable disciplinary action regarding tobacco, alcohol-related or drug-related infractions, and To provide support services to students with an identified tobacco, alcohol or substance abuse concern or problem.

Procedures are established in the Policy for dealing with issues such as possession of drugs, use of drugs and sale and distribution of drugs on school premises or school-organized activities. It also provides for relevant remedial action to be taken if students violate the Policy.

Another key element of the Policy is the support of parents and guardians in the area of drug prevention among their children. This support is of paramount importance in the Policy and in the national drug control campaign.

During the period 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2009, 448 students

were arrested and charged for various offenses in Grenada. Forty-three students were arrested and charged for possession of drugs, while one each were arrested for drug trafficking, and possession of a drug apparatus.



**GANJA** is illegal in Grenada, Carriacou & Petite Martinique

### OUR MISSION

*The Drug Control Secretariat would endeavour to create an atmosphere of non-tolerance towards drugs, through the implementation of appropriate programmes, which would promote the well-being of all persons in the State of Grenada.*

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**FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK**



*Dave Alexander, Drug Control Officer*

Without doubt, problems associated with the consumption of alcoholic beverages, have created havoc and distress to many families in Grenada. These problems include health, legal, socio-economic and other related issues. As new alcoholic beverages are introduced unto the market, the appeal to consume these products poses significant pressure on our students and young people, to use these products.

Several recommendations have been made to curb this problem. A major issue raised was that the Liquor Dealers' Licences, CAP 174, should be amended to include the following: Consumption of alcoholic beverages by juveniles; Sale, delivery, supply of alcoholic beverages by and to juveniles; Sale, delivery, supply of alcoholic beverages on schools' premises; Purchasing of intoxicating liquor by juveniles, and advertisement of alcoholic beverages in the media.

The Drug Control Secretariat is concerned about the serious state of affairs regarding the devastating consequences of alcohol. It is time for action. The time is now! Let us be bold and decisive and take the necessary action to stem this systemic problem. An excellent place to start is by amending the Liquor Dealers' Licences, CAP 174, to include the above recommendations.

**SGU STUDENT DOES PRACTICUM AT DCS**

Good day readers! I am Esther Munga, a student at St. George's University (SGU) who is completing my requirements for the MPH degree with a practicum at the Drug Control Secretariat (DCS), in July 2010. I came to Grenada from Kenya. I've attended briefings about a survey that was conducted at Her Majesty's Prison regarding crime and drug abuse with senior members of multiple ministries. I have also had the opportunity to be present at the exploration of further cooperation between the DCS and the Probation Office as well as talk to young gentlemen about myths and facts about drugs, and Laws relating to drugs in Grenada, and Kenya. I also did data analysis for GREN DIN.



This process has enlightened me on the advantages and challenges of running Government programs in small countries. Creativity and the ability to network are important for success, something the DCS team has done successfully I hope I have left a positive footprint there, and I would encourage more people to intern with the DCS. Thank you to the team for your warm hospitality. I will miss Grenada terribly. *Kwa heri ya kuonana* (Until we meet again...)

**RENEWED COMMITMENT**

The Drug Control Secretariat is recommitting itself to educating the nation on the dangers of drug and alcohol use. This follows a revelation that fifty-four (54) students were arrested and charged for various offences, for the period 1 January to 6 September 2010. This number consisted of 50 males and 4 females.

Among the offences for which the students were arrested are: stealing, causing physical injuries and possession of drugs. Four of the students (3 males and 1 female) were arrested for possession of drugs. The age range of the students arrested and charged ranged from 9 to 22 years.

As part of its ongoing initiatives geared toward drug prevention, the Drug Control Secretariat say they will intensify efforts to provide quality and relevant programs which would assist students in making the right decisions in the area of drug prevention. Programs to be strengthened include: drug prevention at the preschool and kindergarten levels, teacher training and working with juveniles.

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PHOTOS OF SUMMER PROGRAMS



**Pernell Clarke, from CICAD,  
Participates in Meeting in Grenada,  
22 July 2010**



**Participant in Leadership Workshop,  
2 June 2010**



**Elizabeth Japal, Assistant Drug Control Officer  
& Esther Munga on assignment at the Prisons,  
23 July 2010**

**IN THE NEWS**

Officers from the Drug Control Secretariat held a series of meetings with newly appointed Heads of Institutions who are part of the Grenada Drug Information Network (GREN DIN). Meetings were held with Ms. Ellen Gabriel, Chief Pharmacist Ag), Pharmacy Unit at the Ministry of Health, and Mr. Erwin Henry, Chief Analytical Chemist at the Produce Chemist Laboratory. The meetings were held to brief these Officers on the work of GREN DIN and related drug control matters.

The period June to August 2010 presented the Drug Control Secretariat with several opportunities to conduct drug prevention programs at various summer programs and training sessions. Such sessions were conducted with juvenile offenders, teachers, youth and community workers, adolescents and young children, and Police Recruits. Issues addressed during those sessions included: Drugs and The Law; National Schools' Policy On Drugs; Leadership; Drug prevention Skills. These sessions were conducted in collaboration with various agencies including the Ministry of Youth empowerment, Ministry of Education, Young Women's' Christian Association, Churches and the Royal Grenada Police Force (RGPF).

Mr. James Clarkson has been reappointed to serve another year to serve as Commissioner of Police of Grenada. According to Prime Minister Hon. Tillman Thomas, who is also the Minister responsible for Grenada's National Security, "On the advice of the Public Service Commission, Mr. James Clarkson has been reappointed as Commissioner of Police by the Governor General, Sir Carlyle Glean, under the same terms and conditions as the previous contract. This reappointment is based on Commissioner Clarkson's satisfactory record of performance and his willingness to serve for another year".



A major drug bust occurred on 9 August 2010, with the seizure of 9.5 kilos of cocaine by the Royal Grenada Police Force, as part of its ongoing drug interdiction program. Meanwhile, there were several large-scale eradication exercises of cannabis plants in July and August 2010.

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The Drug Control Secretariat expresses condolences to the family of the late Cyril Dickson, who passed away 28 July 2010. Mr. Dickson was a former member of the Royal Grenada Police Force (RGPF), and Social Worker and Counselor at Her Majesty's Prisons. Mr. Dickson was actively involved in various aspects of drug control. In 2006, the Drug Control Secretariat funded the attendance of Mr. Dickson to the Caribbean Institute on Alcoholism and Other Drug Problems (CARIAD), in Tobago. Mr. Dickson made outstanding contributions in other areas such as athletics, music, and community development.



**NOW PLAYING:  
'LIVING DRUG-FREE'  
On GIS Television,  
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A production of the  
Drug Control Secretariat  
&  
Government Information Service**

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