

# Belize National Teachers' Union



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## Press Release

Belize National Teachers' Union  
Annual Convention

The Belize National Teachers' Union (BNTU) held its Annual Convention from 7th - 9th April 2015 in Benque Viejo del Carmen, Cayo District, under the theme: "BNTU - Promoting Equity and Social Justice for All." The event began with an Opening Ceremony and Social for Executive Members and invited guests, held on the evening of April 7th, at the La Cancha auditorium in the Marshalleck Stadium. His Worship, the Mayor of Benque Viejo, Mr. Geraldo Ramcharan, welcomed all Executive Members and invited guests to Benque Viejo and wished BNTU well for the activities of the coming days. BNTU's President, Bro. Luke Palacio, also welcomed members present and briefly set the tone for the following days' events.

General Membership descended on the Mount Carmel High School Auditorium in Benque Viejo, on the following day, where the general sessions of the Convention were held. After a brief devotional they listened to remarks by the National President. They then heard from the invited guest speaker, Mr. David Ruiz; author, historian, community activist and Dean of Saint Paul II Sixth Form, whose address highlighted the BNTU's Convention theme. The business sessions included the presentation, correction and acceptance of the Minutes of last year's Convention as well as reports from the National President, National Treasurer, Executive Secretary and all ten individual branches of the BNTU. Presentations were also made by the Public Sector Workers Trust (PSWT) Committee; on the upcoming roll out of the Trust and from the Belize Board of Teacher Education (BBTE); on Teacher Training and Education in Belize. Union members also tabled and voted on several resolutions.

The final day of the Convention primarily entailed the activities of the much anticipated elections of National Executive Officers of the BNTU. Three candidates, including the incumbent Bro. Luke Palacio, offered themselves for service as National President of the BNTU for the next two-year term. Three candidates, including the incumbent Bro. Victor Williams, also offered themselves for service as National Treasurer of the BNTU for the upcoming term. The posts of National Secretary and First Vice President remained unchallenged and according to the BNTU Constitution both ladies who held those positions were eligible to serve another term. They both offered themselves once more for service and were duly endorsed by membership.

*Motto: Service, Security, Success*

