M.I.C.A.L.
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL //

Proposed MICAL Manifesto

Compiled as of September 27th 2026

Education

- **Teachers** - a full compliment of teachers is needed for the MICAL islands. Prioritize attracting seasoned, close to retirement, and/or recently retired Bahamian teachers who can teach multiple subjects. Provide STEM teachers for students who are interested in physics, and chemistry (virtual options if trained/face-to- face teachers are not available)
- **Facilities** - Provide Updated and expanded facilities (classrooms) especially in Mayaguana or consider leasing opportunities close to existing schools for classroom support
- Special consideration be given to STEM education for students in MICAL
- Provide Technical Education for students who wish to move forward in that direction
- Remove students from the virtual platform as soon as possible and upgrade schools in MICAL with physical space to develop technical and vocational skills

- Court tertiary institutions (UB, BTVI, BAMSI or others) to create a secondary/satellite campus in one of the MICAL islands that could focus on fields like Marine Biology, hospitality or Vocational skills (Construction, plumbing etc.) This would assist in the retention of the yearly graduates from MICAL islands.
- Invest in sports training, personnel and MICAL infrastructure (tracks/equipment) to help develop future Olympians

Steps Forward/Solutions:

- Create an Education Committee within MBDC with both active, retired teachers, Government officials, and private stakeholders

- Allow/Deputize MICAL representatives (Schools and MBDC Education Committee) to solicit /search for teachers interested in relocating to the islands for needed subject areas

- Start feasibility studies, and other research for tertiary institutions to establish a presence in MICAL. Engage with them to gauge interest, write proposals

Tourism

- Incentivize Bahamasair or other air carriers to diversify or add routes throughout MICAL

- Create tourism packages/promotions to foster travel between the MICAL islands (e.g, 2 island weekends)
- Create and run local and international campaigns to highlight what MICAL has to offer. This can include:
    - Print campaigns
    - Tourism shows/conventions (booths)
    - Social Media
    - Engage/court travel agents and influencers to visit and document their stay/trips in MICAL

- Customs/tax breaks on imports etc. for business in the tourism sector
- All MICAL islands designated a clearing port with stationary Customs and Immigration officers.
- Implement customs and Immigration clearance personnel for ALL international arrivals (airport and anchorage)
- Court southern markets for travel into the Bahamas Via MICAL (Turks and Caicos, DR/Haiti, Puerto Rico)
- Diversify what tourism means/Expand tourism market. e.g. Eco Tourism, Sports tourism

Steps Forward/Solutions:

- Create a Tourism Committee within MBDC and necessary Government officials and private stakeholders
- Establish Tourism "boards" on each island utilizing the Tourism Reps or hiring such personnel if needed. They will be responsible for creating itineraries (what to do, where to stay) for each island by working with local businesses and relevant stakeholders
- Establish at least one way to connect the MICAL islands (suggestion: airlift through Bahamasair)
- Host townhalls/sessions to inform business owners in the tourism sector and ensure their brand/product/service is up to par

Infrastructure/Works

- The upkeep of roads, docks and airports in MICAL
- Implement clean/green energy options (solar, wind, atmospheric water generation)
- Ensure we have steady and stable telecommunication (phone/Internet) - Add Starlink for all schools

Health

- Construct and/or repair clinics in MICAL
- The opening of health facilities that will reduce the cost of traveling to New Providence for rather simple medical procedures
- Develop one island in MICAL (or Long Island) as a health hub with state of the art hospital facilities that is staffed with medical professionals of high standards

- Create or implement an emergency evacuation plan for MICAL residents
- Employ more dentin or partner with private companies to offer more regular dental services in MICAL on a yearly basis (2 or 3 times per year per island)
- Hire a resident Doctor for Crooked Island and Long Cay

Land

- Have crown land made available for farming with conditions of production
- Farmers and fisherman/woman be given adequate financial aid and technical support
- Encouraged residents to restart backyard farms to grow vegetables, etc.
- Crownland
    - Making Crown land available to the residents (consider pre approving lots that can be distributed via local government)
    - Make the application process less complicated and speed up the process
- Create another "Contract" type project with the government of Haiti?? (Agricultural exchange programs with neighboring countries that are more advanced than The Bahamas in Agriculture.)

Steps Forward/Solutions:
Work with Government/Lands and Survey Department to overhaul processes for MICAL islands. This will include surveying available land

Investment

- Form/work with an "Investment Committee" (can be arranged through the MBDC) whose job is to market MICAL as an opportunity for investors. This will:
    - Create more transparency in deals for both investor and local communities
    - Allow residents to have a voice in what kind of investments come to their communities
    - Take pressure off government for sole development of MICAL and lean towards a more of a Public Private partnership
    - Allow space for more indigenous/ Bahamian-owned investments
- Pre-approving certain acreage and sections of land on each of island for investment
- Create a fund for MICAL islands that incentivizes descendants to renovate family homesteads and return home especially those who might have skills that are definitely needed

Security

- Create a civilian force to monitor our waters for poachers/overfishing
    - Train and equip locals with vessels/drones who monitor and report
    - Work alongside RBDF

- Ensure that investments/projects are safe and will not harm the environments of these islands by doing thorough environmental research/investigations and acting on such findings in the best interests of the people.