

NATIONAL CULTURAL POLICY

GRENADA

**CONSULTATION
DOCUMENT**

NATIONAL CULTURAL POLICY OF GRENADA

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MESSAGE

(SUGGESTION MINISTER FOR CULTURE OR CHAIRPERSON
GRENADA CULTURAL FOUNDATION)



INTRODUCTION

The Government and people of Grenada acknowledge the importance of remembering our ancestors, the sacrifices made to create a better life for future generations and the legacy of traditions passed on.

The nation is committed to ensuring our history, heritage and traditions are taught, respected and celebrated throughout the State. Our cultural traditions define who we are and determine our national identity. Through the creation and implementation of this policy we affirm our commitment to maintaining our uniqueness as Grenadians and our identity as Caribbean people.

1. CULTURE AND INSTITUTIONS

The National Cultural Policy of the Tri-State comprising Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique is therefore designed to provide a foundation for the preservation and guardianship of our heritage and traditions and to facilitate the development of an evolving culture within a contemporary climate.

Responsibility for the implementation of the National Cultural Policy is entrusted to the following institutions.

1.1 MINISTRY FOR TOURISM, CIVIL AVIATION, CULTURE AND THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Ministry for Tourism, Civil Aviation, Culture and the Performing Arts has overall responsibility for the creation and implementation of the National Cultural Policy.

In addition to supporting nationwide activities, the Ministry is also responsible for regional and international relations and partnerships ensuring that Grenada maintains a presence at relevant festivals, seminars and events throughout the CARICOM.

1.2 GRENADA CULTURAL FOUNDATION

The office of the Grenada Cultural Foundation was established in 1998 to support the Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Culture and the Performing Arts in their efforts to sustain and promote cultural awareness and activities throughout the State. One of its primary functions is to play a pivotal role in the formulation of a National Cultural Policy, operate as guardians of that policy, oversee the day to day implementation and to initiate annual projects and events. To facilitate this, the Foundation works in collaboration and consultation with stakeholders, individuals, groups and institutions.

(from the Grenada Cultural Foundation Act 23)

There is hereby established a body to be known as the Grenada Cultural Foundation which shall be a body corporate to which section 47 and 49 of the Interpretation and General Provisions Act apply.

The objectives of the Foundation are:

- to assist in the formulation of a National Cultural Policy;
- to stimulate, develop and promote cultural and artistic capabilities and expressions of the Grenadian people;
- to provide the necessary managerial and organizational infrastructure for the efficient and effective development, presentation and marketing of Grenada's cultural industries and products;
- to develop, maintain and manage all cultural facilities and equipment provided by the Government;
- to play a substantial role in the organization and production of the annual carnival festival with the objective of making it a viable, national, cultural and commercial enterprise;
- to organize and produce other festivals, celebrations and events;
- to assist in the setting up of a cultural information system;
- to facilitate ongoing research and documentation of cultural history of Grenada with the objective of preserving and conserving the cultural heritage; and

- to provide the necessary support and facilities to assist persons interested in the development of cultural expression.

Together these two institutions are committed to ensuring that the heritage, traditions and culture are respected, celebrated and shared throughout the nation and promoted regionally and internationally.

2. CULTURAL HERITAGE

Our cultural heritage is our connection to our past and, as such, is an important component of our identity and critical self worth. How we understand or perceive our past will be directly related to how we act in the present and what efforts we place toward building for progress in the future.

The cultural heritage is the collective memory, in various forms, of the people's response to life and reflection on life, going back several generations. Just as no individual can hope for a whole sense of self and authentic action in the world without their personal memory, so it is also futile for a people to hope for social harmony and true civilizing achievement without their collective memory, embedded and expressed in the many forms which show the positive and negative aspect of ourselves, both of which we must know in order to truly build.

With this in mind, Government will initiate actions aimed at retrieving the patrimony of the State and at preserving, analyzing and disseminating knowledge of the traditional, historical and natural aspects of our culture.

2.1 Races

The Government of Grenada recognizes and respects the multi-racial diversity of the Grenadian society and embraces the positive influences that diversity offers to the nation.

2.2 Language and Oral Tradition

The Government of Grenada;

- Will support and promote our oral traditions such as 'Nancy stories, folk songs and Patois.
- Recognizes and respects the different ways in which persons communicate through various types of terminology, jargon, lingo and other means of expression.

- Recognize the immeasurable value of the oral tradition as a living and endangered repository and transmitter of information, beliefs and values;

3. NATIONAL EMBLEMS

The Government will promote the significance and importance of the coat of arms, national flag, national anthem, national pledge, national dish, national bird and national flower. It is expected that all citizens must know and respect the national emblems.

3.1 Coat of Arms

Our Coat-Of-Arms, like our Flag, represents the distillation of a national effort to produce armorial bearings for an Independent Grenada, incorporating important historical and indigenous features of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique, in a design approved by the College of Arms.

It should be mentioned that what is commonly known as a Coat-Of-Arms is more likely called an Achievement of Arms which comprises; the lively Coat or colour on a Shield, Charges or Devices on the Shield, The Helm of special design, the Mantle which covers the helm, the Wreath to hold the mantle in place and the Crest, the Supporter and the Motto.

It will be noted that our national colours of red, gold and green, which comprises the nation flag are used on the shield where the same symbolism is attached to them.

3.2 National Flag

Grenada's National Flag will at all times be its blanket across the Tri State of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique and will be recognized as a national emblem of identity.

3.3 National Anthem

The Government of Grenada will ensure that all citizens learn, know and respect the National Anthem.

3.4 National Pledge

The Government of Grenada will ensure that all citizens learn, know and respect the National Pledge.

I pledge allegiance to the flag and to the country for which it stands with liberty, justice and equality for all.

I pledge also that I shall defend and uphold the honor, dignity, laws and institutions of my country.

3.5 National Dish

The National dish of Grenada is Oil Down the ingredients of which come entirely from provisions grown in Grenada. (see appendix one)

The Government encourages and promotes the use of locally grown produce promoting the concept 'eat what you grow'.

Local spices in Grenada contribute to the economic wealth of the country through exportation those include, nutmeg, mace, cinnamon, cloves and saffron.

3.6 National Bird

The Government of Grenada will ensure the protection of the living heritage, through the preservation of wildlife, in particular our national bird, the Ramiere, also displayed on the national flag.

3.7 National Flower

The National flower is the Flamboyant.

3.8 National Dress

The Government of Grenada will ensure the creation of a National Dress to promote the awareness of our cultural identity.

The Government will encourage the wearing of various forms of ethnic wear.

4. NATIONAL FESTIVALS

There are two types of festivals recognized in Grenada, National and Grand. National Festivals include, Independence, Thanksgiving, Carnival, Fisherman's Birthday and the Arts Festival. Grand Festivals include, Carriacou Carnival, Carriacou Parang, Carriacou Regatta, Rainbow City Festival, St Mark's Day Celebrations and St Patrick's Day Celebrations.

The Government will observe all national holidays, Good Friday, Easter, Whitson, Christmas and Emancipation Day.

5. CULTURE AND RELIGION

Religion is a vital element of the nation's existence providing a source of comfort and a sense of stability to the nation.

- The Government will recognize, respect and give due consideration to the religious pluralism which exists in the State.
- Encourage and support all attempts to promote dialogue and mutual understanding among people of different faiths and beliefs.
- Acknowledge and uphold religious feast days such as, Good Friday, St. Patrick Day, St. George Day, and others not mentioned here.

6. CULTURE AND EDUCATION

Education must be about the creation of a citizen and must therefore be cultural or, some would say, multi-cultural. It must be based on the recognition of the needs of the society and the development of a programme to meet those needs. It must take into consideration that learning must ultimately and deliberately lead to a better and richer understanding of ones self, abilities, shortcomings, ambitions and strengths. It must empower us to participate fully in national development.

The Government of Grenada recognizes the critical and irreplaceable role of education in developing the creative imagination, not only for artistic interest but problem-solving in general and the importance of education in developing self-reliance and an awareness of the possibilities of the cultural heritage for stimulating self-reliance and self-realization.

The Government of Grenada will seek to:

- Promote greater coordination and coherence between the culture and education policies.
- Encourage and promote the recognition of cultural expression and excellence in the measurement of the quality of education provided by educational institutions.
- Provide opportunities for the people, especially the young, to experience directly the excellence of our cultural traditions, by encouraging the teaching of our cultural heritage in schools and higher education institutions.
- Support and encourage research into and analysis of the body of folk wisdom for the insights it may provide into present individual and social issues.
- Strengthen the Performing and Visual Arts offerings of secondary and primary schools, providing and guaranteeing spaces for cultural production and opportunities for artistic and cultural excellence.
- Promote and encourage the use of existing public resources such as museums, libraries and national collections by school children and tertiary level students, so as to complement existing and future syllabi and by so doing create a unique synergy between culture (as manifested in cultural objects) and education.
- Provide resources to strengthen existing institutions engaged in research on the nation's cultural history, traditional folk and contemporary cultural practices and programmes in culture.
- Encourage and facilitate the development of new research projects and programmes in culture.
- Provide spaces in schools for enrichment of the cultural, performing and visual arts offered.
- Encourage the development of programs, that reinforce the attitudes and values relevant and necessary for social cohesion and peaceful co-existence,
- Encourage and support the promotion of cultural and spiritual values as important in the planning of education curricula.
- Develop special programmes to assist children and youth in mastering and adapting to new media and technologies.
- Give direction and support to programmes that encourage children and youth to think creatively and to learn about diverse cultures in order to encourage national

pride and openness to other cultures, nurture a sense of national identity and awareness and foster tolerance, respect and faith in one's own culture.

6.1. Training

- Encourage and support the upgrading of centre's and institutions responsible for professional training, in the highest quality, here in Grenada so as to enable them to create new dynamic works.
- Give priority to programmes and projects that seek to promote cultural exchange, apprenticeships, internships and job opportunities for young people in cultural heritage, performing and visual arts institutions, in the public and private sectors, regionally and internationally.
- Facilitate collaboration and coordination among secondary and tertiary educational institutions in the development and expansion of appropriate training programmes for human resource development in the culture sector.
- Encourage our universities to establish instruments that will position culture at the highest levels of academic and career development.
- Provide additional resources for training in the arts, for using the arts as methodology in educational delivery.

6.2 Nurturing Excellence

The Government of Grenada recognizes the importance and value of nurturing the wealth of talent and skills that exists amongst Grenadians. It is therefore incumbent upon the Government to ensure that opportunities exist to allow that talent to be shaped and applied on a national, regional and international scale so that the best Grenada has to offer can be showcased.

In this regard, the Government of Grenada will seek to:

- Establish and maintain standards of excellence in the transmission of cultural expressions within the various media and communication channels.
- Provide for our people opportunities to experience the excellence of foreign cultural expressions through exchanges and co-production agreements both within our shores and in other parts of the world.

- Give support and assistance to the private cultural sector, through the provision of incentives, in the strengthening of their organization and in their efforts to nurture and sustain traditions of cultural excellence.
- Identify and provide support for institutions of excellence (cultural treasures), providing incentives to guarantee their continuity and sustainability.
- Encourage and promote programmes in schools and the wider community geared toward the establishment of a strong collection of dynamic, vibrant young artists that demonstrate the excellence associated with our cultural tradition.

6.3 National Awards

- The government will ensure that outstanding cultural personalities, groups and institutions are recognized and shown some form of appreciation for their contribution to cultural development, including the granting of national awards.
- The government will encourage the establishment and maintenance of memorials in honor of outstanding Grenadians who have made significant contributions to national development.

7. RESEARCH AND DOCUMENT

The Government of Grenada will establish and support cultural heritage museums, libraries and memory banks to store information and documentation for availability to the general public.

- Encourage and actively promote by diverse means the dissemination of information and issues arising from such documentation.
- Provide where possible, assistance with monitoring and control of data gathering on the culture of Grenadian people with special attention to ethno-medicine, arts, and craft and providing protection for their rights relative to intellectual property.
- The government will establish and support all facilities, practices, processes groups and institutions that promote and preserve our cultural heritage, these include; museum, libraries, theatre, galleries and memory banks
- Actively promote and control data gathering on the culture of the Grenadian people.

- Encourage and actively promote the dissemination of information and issues arising from such documentation.

8. CULTURE AND HEALTH

Given that nearly all aspects of human well being depend on good health and given that our fore parents had some knowledge of health practices by which they maintained good health;

The Government and people of Grenada;

- Recognize and evaluate the philosophy, medical and health practices of previous generations;
- Support research in those areas and promote scientific development of them for more widespread use where feasible, for example, local Grenadian herbs are noted for their medicinal properties.
- Recognize the value of our local herbs and plant life and will encourage cultivation and production with a view to capitalizing on their economic benefits.
- Recognize the importance of traditional cultural beliefs and practices and seriously take them into account in designing and implementing programs to deal with health issues and problems

9. ARTISTIC CULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

The government of Grenada will encourage and promote both traditional and contemporary expressions of literature, music, dance, drama, film, art and craft and will endorse and support the work and efforts of artistes, cultural groups and organizations in the country.

10. CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

The government will give active support to the development of cultural industries which relate to traditional and contemporary forms of cultural manifestations.

Further to the development of cultural industries is the need to foster and promote entrepreneurship within the wider community. This is directly related to the systematic facilitating of high levels of exportation and self sustenance/self reliance through the empowerment of our people toward self-employment, income generating activities, inventing and manufacturing, which are the goals of entrepreneurship.

The Government of Grenada will seek to:

- Give direction to activities geared at the development of cultural industries through the provision of incentives for private sector involvement in this area.
- Provide co-ordination and coherence among agencies and institutions offering programmes and activities centered on cultural industry promotion and development in order to foster clear and dynamic opportunities for the artists and the wider community involved in activities in this area.
- Provide administrative and financial support as well as resources for the promotion of actions and strategies aimed at the creation, production, distribution, exhibition and marketing of cultural products within the local, regional and global marketplace.
- Foster and promote measures, strategies and actions aimed at the development of cultural industries that take into consideration the particular nature of the products, through the provision of incentives for investment in the industry, co-production agreements, content requirements, or other form to be determined.
- Provide financial support, directly or indirectly, to individuals, artists, producers, institutions involved in the promotion and development of cultural expression, in particular those related to cultural industry development. Such financial support may be by direct transfer of funds, tax exemption or remittance or any other form and should only be accessible to domestic producers, or in special cases, to foreigners.

10.1 Grenadians and the World

The Government of Grenada recognizes its obligation to ensure that the country can actively participate in the international cultural movement and will endeavor to ensure that Grenada obtains access to all available opportunities in the regional and global marketplace.

10.2 Cultural Relations

The Government of Grenada will make every effort to collaborate with regional and international partners to ensure that the nation can benefit from relationships, partnerships and collaborations with global cultural organizations and institutions.

11. FINANCING AND CULTURAL ADMINISTRATION

The Government of Grenada recognizes the importance of financial investment and incentives for ensuring the preservation and development of our culture and traditions.

The Government of Grenada will:

- Maintain the policy of duty free concessions on approved cultural activities, programmes and products.
- Actively continue to financially support artistic cultural endeavors in Grenada.
- Give incentives to the private sector to encourage their input, by measures such as tax relief.
- Introduce measures to achieve the goal of adequate financing for cultural endeavors.

12. CULTURE AND TOURISM

The Government of Grenada recognizes the economic impact the tourist industry has on the country. As the need to upgrade and expand our tourism product intensifies and the world begins to focus on cultural/heritage tourism, Grenada must make the necessary adjustments in its planning sector to maximize on the potential of this area.

- Through the combined efforts of the Ministry for Tourism, Civil Aviation, Culture and the Performing Arts and Grenada Board of Tourism, the Government is

committed to promoting Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique globally by applying strategic marketing plans to encourage more visitors to our shores thereby increasing the economic impact on the country.

13. CULTURE AND ENTERTAINMENT

The Government of Grenada recognizes the need for implementation of legislation to regulate the Entertainment Industry and is committed to acknowledging the economic benefits, thereby investing in the needs of the industry and the stakeholders.

The Government will endeavor to attract through various international agreements and foreign expertise, investment in the entertainment industry, and will encourage alliances with local and foreign artists, co-production agreements, residencies, internships, and such mechanisms as may assist in the development, nurturing and promotion of the industry.

14. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The Government will establish the mechanism for the protection of the work of artists, writers, musicians, designers, inventors and performers through enforcement of the appropriate laws to combat piracy and plagiarism.

To ensure this the Government of Grenada will;

- Contribute to national economic growth and development through the proper protection, administration and enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs).
- Ensure the preservation of the Intellectual Property Rights of our inventors, creators, artists and rights holders
- Ensure the implementation and enforcement of the existing Copyright Act and commit to ensuring its constant upgrading to keep pace with the rapidly changing demands of intellectual property protection.
- Provide Grenadian creators, inventors and commercial enterprises, as well as foreign rights holders with modern and comprehensive procedures and facilities for the protection of the IPRs.
- Facilitate an international level of IP protection for Grenadian rights holders
- Heighten public awareness on the importance and economic value of IPRs and the need for the protection of these rights.

14.1 Copyright

The Government of Grenada will protect the Intellectual Property Rights of Singers, Musicians, Writers, Choreographers, Graphic Designers, Sculptures, Sound Technicians, Architects and other creators not listed here through:

- The execution of the existing Copyright Act.
- By establishing systems to prevent breaches of Copyright laws.
- By fully enforcing the laws governing the Copyright Act.

14.2 Broadcasting

In an effort to support the artists and broadcasting media in Grenada the Government will endeavor to;

- Facilitate the formulation of a Broadcasting Policy to regulate audio visual media activities.
- Through the Broadcasting Policy establish quotas for ensuring equal, if not more, air play time is given over to local music.
- Set Government standards for regulating the lyrical content of local music to prevent negative influences being exposed to our nation, particularly our young people.
- Strengthen efforts for public broadcasting that target youth and children.

15. CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT (Agriculture)

In acknowledging that agriculture has been the main source of economic activity of the majority of Caribbean People for centuries and recognizing that beliefs, attitudes and practices have grown around it;

The Government of Grenada will:

- Develop suitable public education programmes to sensitize the population to the importance of the environment in sustaining and enriching the life of a nation.
- Encourage schools and community groups in activities related to environmental protection.

- Provide incentives for farmers to ensure future sustainability.
- Encourage landscaping of all private and public properties.

16. HERITAGE PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Government of Grenada recognizes its obligation to ensuring the preservation of our tangible and intangible heritage and cultural traditions, and its responsibility for providing opportunities for development and progression.

In this regard, the Government of Grenada will seek to:

- Strengthen national symbols and promote greater appreciation of them within the wider community in an effort to foster a notion of a shared history and so engender peace, tolerance and respect in communities.
- Provide incentives for private sector involvement in the development of heritage sites.
- Establish and promote heritage trails and heritage-in-schools projects among the programs geared toward educating our children about their heritage.
- Enact legislation and provide administrative and other support for activities geared at the protection of our heritage and the counteracting of illicit trading in cultural property.
- Foster and promote activities geared at the protection and development of our natural cultural heritage through the coordinated work of the relevant agencies.
- Give direction and support for activities geared at the commemoration of important events in our nation's history and culture as a vital element of heritage preservation and dissemination to our young.

16.1 Patrimony

The Government of Grenada recognizes the significance of preserving the heritage entrusted to us by our ancestors and commit to ensuring that each generation is versed in the importance of reflecting on and embracing its inheritance.

The Government of Grenada will:

- Actively promote and support all efforts aimed at the preservation and restoration of the national patrimony and create or strengthen legislation to support such efforts.
- Promote and support educational efforts aimed at developing an active and felt appreciation of the national and regional patrimony and encourage the use of the nation's historical sites as a resource for educational programs in schools and tertiary colleges.

16.2 Museum

- Identify additional resources for expanding, upgrading and developing the country's museums, archives and libraries based on an approach that rationalizes the present offerings to the greater benefit of the nation.
- Encourage and actively promote diverse dissemination of information.
- Provide where possible, assistance with monitoring and control of data gathering on the culture of Grenadian craft.
- Endeavor to ensure our museum becomes a resource for the educating of the young people of the nation and is recognized as a place of interest for tourists and nationals.
- Facilitate the housing and safeguarding of historical artifacts and antiques to guarantee the preservation of our heritage.

16.3 Historical and Archeological Sites

The Government of Grenada will:

- Support the restoration and maintenance of archeological and historical sites in the country.
- Enact legislation for the protection and recovery of artifacts and other cultural property.

- Adopt the relevant legislation for the protection, preservation and development of heritage, archeological sites and buildings and will empower the appropriate bodies to be the guardians of those sites.
- Through the Board of Tourism and other Marketing strategies promote the nation's historical and archeological sites to the tourism sector regionally and internationally.

17. CULTURE AND TRADE

The Government of Grenada will:

- Actively encourage the exporting of locally produced cultural goods through its existing relationships with regional and international traders.
- Foster and promote strategies and programmes for the marketing of our products of cultural excellence within the global marketplace, establishing in this way, trade in cultural products (goods and services) as a viable economic alternative to traditional industries in centres of trade and development.

18. CULTURE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/MEDIA

The Government of Grenada:

- Recognizes the importance of technology in preserving the nation's heritage and further development and enhancement of cultural activity therefore the government will take steps to secure the expertise and technology to achieve these goals.
- The government will recognize and accord valuation to the tradition of indigenous technology in Grenada and support research efforts in this area, especially for possible adaptation.

APPENDIX ONE: National Dish Recipe

Grenada's National dish is:

Oil Down

Grenada's national dish is called "oil-down". It's a simple, delicious and robust dish, which is very popular in local restaurants. It's a hearty one-pot meal (think stew) of salted meat, chicken, dumplings, breadfruit, callaloo (KAL-la-loo) - made from young dasheen leaves) and other vegetables. The whole thing is stewed in coconut milk, herbs and spices to add even more flavour. This recipe will comfortably serve 6 persons.

You will need:

- 8 oz. salt meat
- 1 large or 2 small breadfruit, cut into 4 or 6 sections
- 8 oz. cooked salt fish, flaked
- 1 whole chili
- 2 sprigs thyme
- 2 chives
- 1 stick celery, chopped or 1/2 teaspoon celery seeds
- 2 3/4 pints coconut milk
- salt to taste

Soak meat overnight in cold water, drain. Remove the breadfruit core and peel. In a saucepan, put alternate layers of breadfruit, meat and fish. Tie chili, thyme and chives together and add to the pan with celery and coconut milk. Cover tightly and bring to the boil, reduce heat and simmer for about 45 - 50 minutes until everything is cooked and tender. When cooked the liquid should all be absorbed and the stew oily. Remove herbs before serving and add salt to taste.