



THE NATIONAL TRUST OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

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BIOSKETCHES OF NOMINEES TO COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Akil Abullah is an IT engineer, actor, teacher, social media manager, graphic designer and General Manager at EL and I Co. Ltd. He is a dynamic community leader involved with the Carnbee/Mt. Pleasant Village Council in Tobago with a passion for folk arts, having won the National Folk Fair competition for drama and placed 3rd in the Prime Minister's Best Village Competition for storytelling. He holds Bachelor's degrees in Theatre Arts and Information Technology with the MBA in Business Management and Administration. Enthusiastic about archaeology, cultural heritage development, tourism (both natural and man-made) as well as restorative work at colonial sites, Akil is dedicated to the work of the Trust and his country.

Avril Belfon has held the position of Government Archivist at the National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago since 2010. She is responsible for the care and preservation of the documentary heritage of the country. She holds a Master's degree in Library and Information Studies from the University of Toronto and has experience as a Librarian at the Information Networks Division of the National Library, the Heritage Library and the Parliament Library.

Felicia Chang is the co-founder of Plantain, an innovative company committed to the preservation of life histories, genealogical research as well as the support of aging populations. Plantain has compiled mini memories of oral histories and memorabilia for over 30 persons and has entered short films in the CaribbeanTales (Toronto, 2015) and Trinidad and Tobago Film Festivals. Felicia is also a senior consultant in public health research and outreach in both Trinidad and Tobago as well as the wider Caribbean, North America, Europe and Africa. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Biology with minors in Anthropology and Chemistry as well as a postgraduate certificate in Project Management from the University of Toronto with the Master's of Science degree in Major International Health from Heidelberg University. Felicia desires to inspire everyone to tell their story in order to create a more compassionate and just community.

Marie Abdullah has been fascinated by architecture, geography, patrimony and the arts since her childhood. She has travelled widely and has lectured at the University in Guyana and is currently a French language, culture and literature teacher at the Alliance Française. She has been actively involved in several not for profit organisations dedicated to heritage issues. In addition to being a long-standing member of Citizens for Conservation and the National Trust of Trinidad and Tobago, she has served as a board member at the Heritage Society in Guyana and has done considerable volunteer work at the the National Museum, where she assisted in setting up the “Friends of the Museum” programme and the “Meet the artist” lecture series as well as fundraising activities. Marie is eager to contribute to the work of the National Trust on the Council.

Roma Wong Sang is an Information and Communications professional who works in the heritage sector, championing the preservation and promotion of our national heritage in all its forms. She is the holder of the MSc in Archives and Records Management, BA in Mass Communications and Diploma in Graphic Design. She is currently employed at the National Archives, where her specific interests are in community and audiovisual archiving. An avid photographer and naturalist, she has been a member of the National Trust for five years and is also member of the T&T Field Naturalists’ Club and Art Society of T&T.

Tavernelle Wells is the holder of a Bachelor’s degree with distinction from the University of Guelph and a Master’s degree in Arts and Heritage: Policy, Management and Education (Maastricht). She is a national scholar who ranked 2nd in the world in History in the 2001 Cambridge Advanced Level Examinations. She is currently a consultant specialising in heritage and creative sectors, providing strategic planning, management consulting, project implementation, monitoring and evaluation services. Tavernelle is passionate about natural and cultural heritage management as a values-based, community-centric social enterprise.

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