

**Text of the Inaugural Address Delivered by Chairman of Hanover Parish Council,  
Her Worship the Mayor of Lucea Councillor Shernet Haughton, at the Lucea  
Town Hall, on Thursday, March 29, 2011**

Hon. David Star, Custos of Hanover;

The Hon. Ian Hayles, Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries;

Mr. Basil McFarlane, Principal Returning Officer;

Outgoing Councillors, including Councillor Fredricous Miller;

Colleague Incoming Councillors, Neville Clare, Wynter McIntosh, Lester Crooks, Lloyd Hill, Devon Brown and Anthony Walker;

Mr. Alfred Graham, Secretary Manager;

Representatives of Non-Government Organisations, Heads of Departments, family friends, colleagues, well wishers, supporters, people of Hanover, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls,

Good afternoon to you all.

It is my first time at bat, so if I have missed anyone, please forgive me.

It is indeed, my pleasure to stand here this afternoon to address you, as Chairman of Hanover Parish Council and the Mayor of Lucea.

The elections are over and the people of Hanover have elected seven Councillors, five from the People's National Party and a sixth leaning to the PNP. Councillor Crooks, I know, I will not get you into any trouble to say the sixth is for the PNP. And not to be outdone, the seventh is from the JLP.

The number will reflect the margin of victory by each Division. I do not want to over emphasize the point but Councillor Wynter McIntosh won the Chester Castle division by 123 votes, Councillor Lloyd Hill the Sandy Bay division by 387; Councillor Devon Brown of the Hopewell division by 176; Councillor Lester Crooks the Riverside division by 434; Councillor Anthony Walker the Cauldwell division by 447; and Councillor Neville Clare won the Lucea division by 454 votes.

I stand here as a testimony from the people of the Green Island division where the numbers will reflect that I represent the highest margin of victory - 1,302.

The people have spoken. The challenges are great. We have work to do. All hands must be on deck for this parish, our parish, our home, to succeed in going forward. The town of Lucea is suffering from economic effects and social deffects but the greatest among all is the zero stop over effect from tourism.

Businesses within the town do not benefit. The town itself, our town does not benefit from tourism. But our problem does not stop there. The drains in the town need to be overhauled. Our town needs a facelift. Hanover needs a facelift right across each division - from Chester Castle to Hopewell, from Sandy Bay to Lucea, from Lucea to Riverside, from Riverside to Cauldwell and from Cauldwell to Green Island.

Over the past couple of days there have been whispers about “who is Shernet Haughton?”

I am Shernet Haughton. First and foremost, I am a mother. I am a businesswoman. I am a past student of Rusea’s High, founded by Martin Rusea in 1777.

Whatever your fears are let them be your hope, because within me a child of this parish, you will find that hope.

My leadership style is one of consensus building. My leadership style first and foremost is one of team player.

In leading this team I will include consultation with civil society, the business community and the people of our great parish, Hanover.

Finally, I appeal to all my colleagues that all personal and vested interests should be and will be in rebuilding this parish of ours.

And I say to you, let this be a defining moment for you all. Let’s go forth with all hands on deck in rebuilding this great parish. This great town is rich in history and will make history again.

God bless you all, and thank you.

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