

Good day Bermuda

It gives me huge pleasure today to announce more members of our new team.

Tarik Smith is the One Bermuda Alliance candidate in Warwick South East an area where he grew up and where his family has operated a business for more than one hundred years.

Welcome Tarik.

Elizabeth Harvey is the daughter of the very well-known Dr Eugene Harvey and will be the One Bermuda Alliance candidate for constituency 5.

Welcome Elizabeth.

There are several issues that I want to address today.

First, all job growth is welcome, but of the 523 new jobs added in 2019, 306 - or almost 60 percent - were in public administration, education or social work - the vast majority of which are public sector jobs paid for by the taxpayer.

The other job increase was 151 in hotels.

These are the fruits of the One Bermuda Alliance's labours and the OBA-

founded Bermuda Tourism Authority's efforts as new hotels opened.

Disturbingly, there were 50 fewer jobs in international business, Bermuda's main earner of foreign exchange.

It also appears that jobs filled by non-Bermudians rose by 324. What happened to the Premier's pledge to put Bermudians first?

These are the key facts that Bermudians need to pay attention to.

These jobs are either the result of increasing the civil service or from One Bermuda Alliance inspired projects that continue to benefit Bermudians.

Second, there were two issues that arose yesterday.

David Burt held a fundraising event at Tucker's Point which cost twenty thousand dollars a table.

In the news report the Premier has his hand out and was clearly trying to stop publication.

Why did he do that? Was he embarrassed? Did he want to hide it from his supporters?

The Premier also needs to tell the people if he knew about complaints against a now

former PLP MP earlier than he has admitted.

A report suggest that other complaints were made months ago, and that the Premier Burt was informed but did not act. Why?

Did the Premier ignore the complaints? Did he refuse to take action? Did he try and cover this up?

Lastly, last night the Premier used a press conference, that was meant to be all about Covid, only to announce concessions for taxi drivers.

It was an inappropriate platform to announce this concession, but it also made me think: is the Premier now trying to buy votes?

Bermuda we will do better.