

**National Productivity Council  
Stakeholder Consultations  
Sumner Strategic Partners  
Presenter: Edison L. Sumner**

**Group: Civil Society Bahamas**

**Attendees: Mark Palmer, Executives and Members**

**Location: Lend a Hand Bahamas, Lewis Street**

**Date: June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Time: 6:15pm – 8:15pm**

### **NPC Meeting Discussions**

Presentation overview conducted by Mr. Sumner.

Will provide the draft legislation documents to CSB again.

#### General issues highlighted by CSB Members

- How can the workforce contribute to economic prosperity if the opportunities are not there?
- The system is stacked against SMEs and financial opportunities are hard to come by, and stronger support is needed to assist businesses with accessing capital.
- There is a need to address the current immigration problems to support economy.
- There is a need to address the system infrastructure (processes, etc.) in order to assist and support business services.
- Culture needed to train persons from an early age on how to manage businesses and not wait until they are out of school to try and advise them.
- Culture in the workforce comes from values which are not prevalent in the society today. Politicization can create an influence and peddling that can fall prey to a certain mindset, therefore, legislation should be created in such a way to empower all. Any legislation put forward also needs checks and balances in place.
- Suggestion made to make a 10th person that is non-voting that can sit on the Board and come from any entity. Another suggestion was to include persons that would have had global experience in the productivity sphere so that they look at external solutions and use internal factors to support (human elements).
- What does documentation like the National Development Plan bring to the table and how can we use it to support the current challenges with productivity?
- Have there been discussions with the legislation being reviewed by the attorney general's office?