



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **People's National Party Mourns the Passing of Former Speaker, Comrade Violet Neilson**

**Kingston, Jamaica. June 11, 2024:** It is with profound sadness that the People's National Party (PNP) acknowledges the passing of Violet Neilson, former Speaker of the House of Representatives and a stalwart of Jamaican politics. Mrs. Neilson passed away on June 11, 2024, leaving behind a legacy of service, dedication, and unwavering commitment to the people of Jamaica.

Violet Neilson made history as the first female Speaker of the House of Representatives, serving with distinction from 1997 to 2003. Her tenure was marked by her firm yet fair leadership, her integrity, and her tireless advocacy for parliamentary democracy. She was a trailblazer for women in politics and public service, and her contributions have paved the way for many who followed in her footsteps.

Throughout her political career, Mrs. Neilson exemplified the highest standards of public service. She was known for her deep compassion, her keen intellect, and her steadfast dedication to her constituents. Her work extended beyond the halls of Parliament, impacting the lives of countless Jamaicans through her community involvement and her championing of social justice.

PNP President Mark Golding expressed his condolences, stating, "Violet Neilson was a beacon of strength and a true servant of the people. Her pioneering spirit and her contributions to our nation will never be forgotten. We extend our deepest sympathies to her family and loved ones during this difficult time."

The PNP extends heartfelt condolences to the Neilson family, friends, and all who were touched by her remarkable life. As we mourn her passing, we also celebrate the indelible mark she has left on our country. Comrade Violet Neilson's legacy will continue to inspire and guide us in our pursuit of a just and equitable society.

The PNP honours Comrade Violet Neilson's contributions to our nation. May her soul rest in eternal peace.

-30-

**For more information, contact:**

Nekeisha Burchell | Spokesperson for Information and Public Communication  
PNP Media Unit - Tel: (876) 408-3160