

***Catherine Andrea Cholmondeley-Hughes
Minister, Public Telecommunications
Co-operative Republic of Guyana
South America***

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Catherine Hughes began her professional career as a Television Producer in Jamaica where she gained extensive knowledge of the media and the advertising environment in the Caribbean.

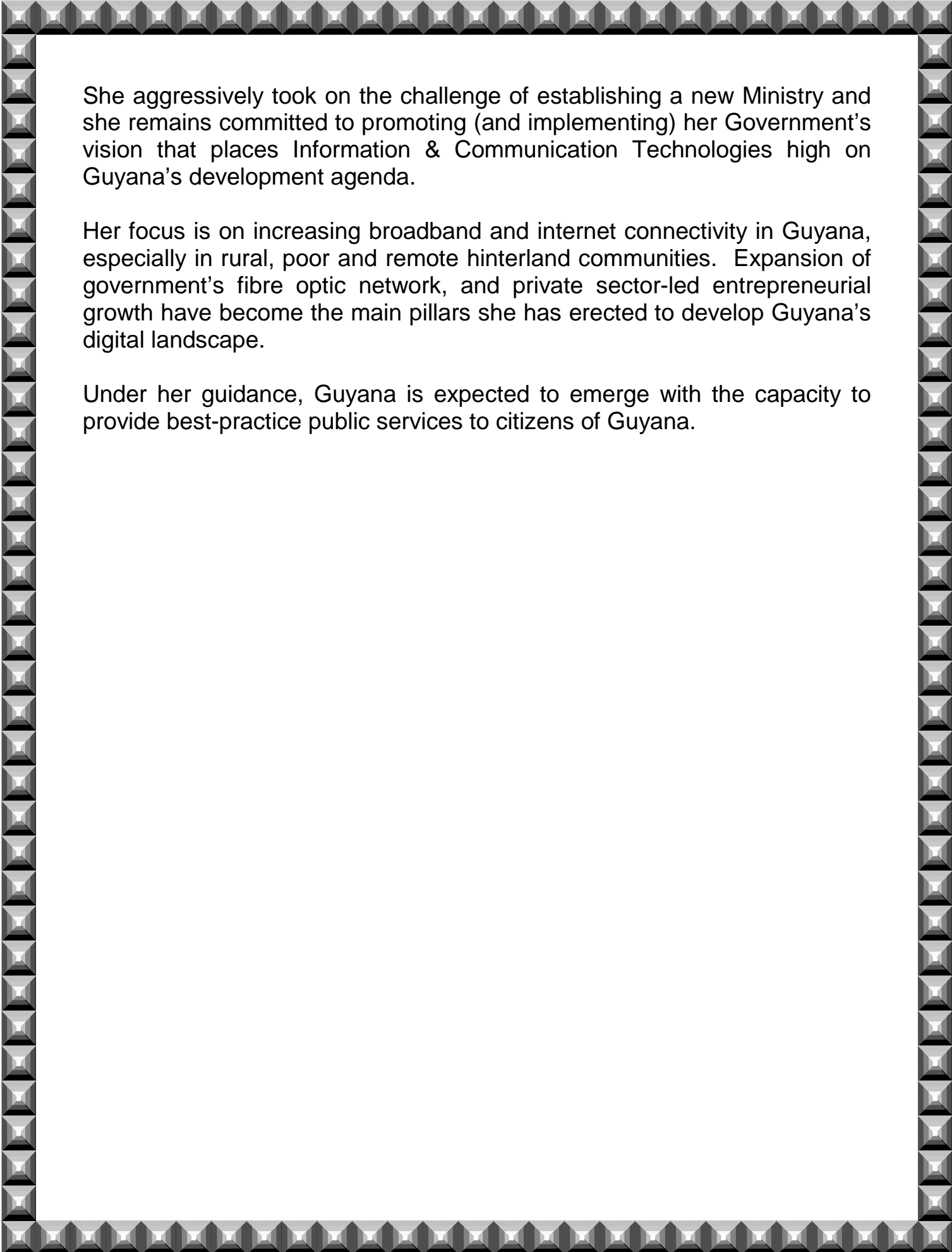
She is a graduate of the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica, and she acquired post graduate certification in Management, Training and Development at a UK University.

She has worked in the Media in the Caribbean and internationally for over twenty (20) years as a TV news reporter in Jamaica; as a freelance radio reporter with BBC's Radio Merseyside in Liverpool, England; and as a television producer for the local edition of CNN's Headline News in Texas, USA.

Cathy returned to Guyana in 1993 and established VideoMega Productions, a state-of-the-art digital television production and advertising agency which acquired a strong reputation for documentary and programme production.

Since then, she has also been a vibrant, outspoken advocate on social and political issues in Guyana. She was a founding member of 'Guyana Is First', 'Women Against Violence Everywhere' (WAVE), and in 2005, the Alliance For Change (AFC) movement. In 2011 she entered the halls of Guyana's Parliament as one of seven members representing the Alliance For Change party.

In 2015, in the aftermath of an historic national election, Cathy Hughes became a Minister of Government entrusted with the Tourism portfolio. Less than a year later she became Guyana's first Minister of Public Telecommunications, and she remains one of few women serving in this position internationally.



She aggressively took on the challenge of establishing a new Ministry and she remains committed to promoting (and implementing) her Government's vision that places Information & Communication Technologies high on Guyana's development agenda.

Her focus is on increasing broadband and internet connectivity in Guyana, especially in rural, poor and remote hinterland communities. Expansion of government's fibre optic network, and private sector-led entrepreneurial growth have become the main pillars she has erected to develop Guyana's digital landscape.

Under her guidance, Guyana is expected to emerge with the capacity to provide best-practice public services to citizens of Guyana.