



PUBLIC OFFICERS' WELFARE COUNCIL

Celebrating 25 Years of Existence

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Our ref: POWC/H/17

Date: 07 March 2017

From: *Organising Secretary, Public Officers' Welfare Council*

To: *Supervising Officers i/c Ministries/Departments*

Hiking at Pétrin - Lower Gorges & Plucking of 'Goyaves de Chine'

The Public Officers' Welfare Council (POWC) is organising a Hiking Trail at Pétrin - Lower Gorges (Colophanes Trail) on Saturday 08 April 2017 for public officers and their families.

2. The park harbours most of our plants, birds and geckos which are native to Mauritius. Part of the Black River Gorges National Park has been designated as a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO. This National Park reveals all the natural splendour of the wildlife and scenery in Mauritius.

3. On the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the Council, a nominal fee of Rs 350 per adult and Rs 300 per child aged between 05 and 12 years will be charged. The fee comprises bus fare and lunch. The hiking trail is not recommended for children under 05 years.

4. Departure from pick-up points will be as follows:

(a) Pamplemousses (Parking - SSR Botanical Garden)	07 45 hrs
(b) Port Louis (Government Centre - Near Queen Victoria Statue)	08 00 hrs
(c) Réduit, University of Mauritius (Bus Parking)	08 15 hrs
(d) St Jean, Quatre Bornes (Near St. Jean Church)	08 20 hrs
(e) Curepipe (Near Municipality of Curepipe & SBM)	08 30 hrs

Please note that the buses will leave their respective pick-up points exactly at the time indicated above. Departure from Black River Gorges at 1500 hrs. Participants not availing transport facilities provided by the council and latecomers will have to make their own transport arrangements.

5. It is mandatory that participants be physically fit for hiking. The Council has taken all safety measures for the hiking. However, participants will have to bear responsibility of any mishap caused by themselves or accompanied members of their family during the hiking.

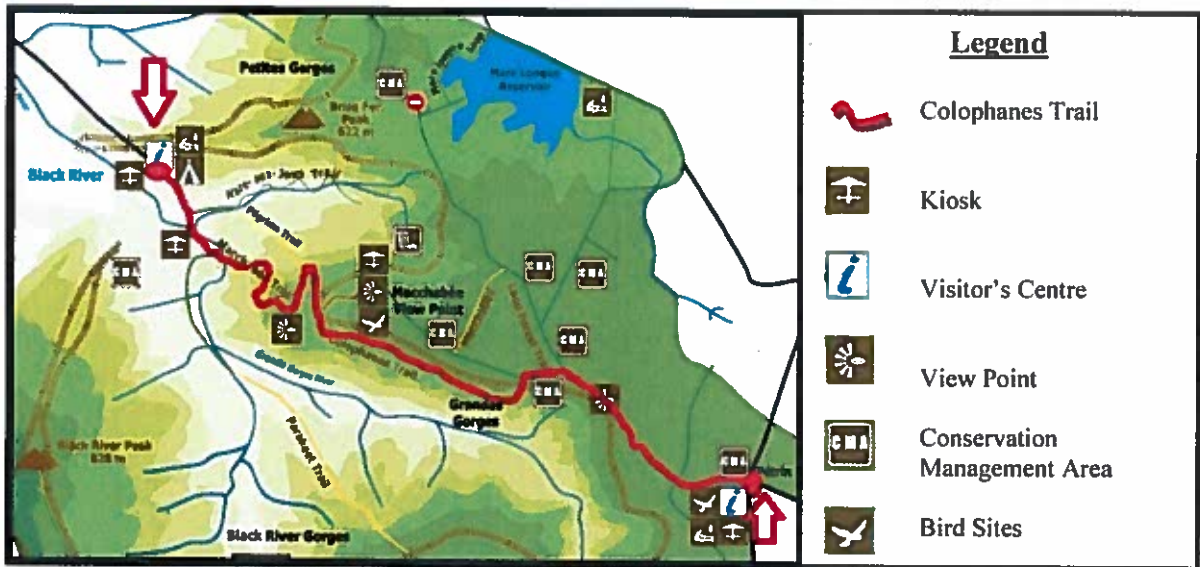
6. Programme of the day:

0900 hrs	Start of the Colophanes Trail from Pétrin Visitors Centre
0900 -1230 hrs	Hiking, Sightseeing and Plucking of 'Goyaves des Chines'
1230 hrs	Lunch near Grand Gorges River - Lower Gorges & leisure time
1500 hrs	Departure from Black River Gorges Visitors Centre

7. Colophanes Trail description


Distance	11 km
Duration	4 Hours
Type	Difficult
Equipments	Hiking Shoes, Caps, Raincoat, Mosquito Repellent, Sunscreen, Water, Swimsuit

P.T.O



Participants who will not be able to trek along the Colophanes trail will have to stay in the bus till the Black River Gorges visitor's centre where they will have to walk approximately 4 km for lunch and plucking of 'Goyaves des Chines'.

8. Public officers interested to join the hiking trail are requested to fill in the enclosed form at **annex A** and submit same together with the exact amount to the Organising Secretary of the POWC on the scheduled payment date. Applicants should produce a photocopy of recent payslip/top part of payslip indicating the name, paysite code and NIC number or any written evidence/ document attesting that the applicant is a public officer in service and the birth certificate of child aged below thirteen, if any.
9. Payment will be received on a **"first come first served basis"** at the seat of the Public Officers' Welfare Council, 6th Floor, ATOM House, 16, Royal Street, Port Louis **on Saturday 18 March 2017 from 0900 to 1430 hours**. In case seats are still available, payments will be extended to weekdays i.e. from **Monday 20 March 2017 from 0930 to 1430 hours**.
10. Cancellation should be made at least one week prior to the date of excursion. Please note that refund will only be considered in exceptional cases such as illness, death of close relative or any other acceptable reason, supported by documentary evidence.
11. The POWC reserves the right to cancel the outing in case of bad weather or any other unforeseen circumstances. Participants will be refunded accordingly.
12. It would be appreciated if the contents of this letter could be brought to the attention of all the staff of your Ministry/Department. A copy of this circular letter is also reproduced on the Council's Website: <http://powc.govmu.org>


S. Bundhoo
 Organising Secretary

Copy to: *Presidents of Staff Welfare Association*