

Dear Friends and Supporters,

First and foremost, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you. Your support, encouragement, and belief in the vision we shared for Newlands truly meant the world to me and my family. While I know that, like me, some of you may feel disappointed with the outcome, I urge you—do not lose heart, and don't lose the momentum we've built together.

This is not the end—it's simply another step in our ongoing journey to build a stronger, more united Newlands. We now have Mr. Wayne Panton returning as our MP. It's our responsibility to hold him accountable, ensure that he delivers on the promises he made, and where possible, support him in doing what is right for all the people. He was elected by us, and we must encourage him to be a voice for us—not just for a few, but for everyone, ending the division and segregation that has left too many of us behind for far too long.

I also want to thank you for the love and kindness you've shown to my family—especially my wife, Angie. This time around, she was able to be more involved and visible, and she felt your genuine support and warmth every step of the way. It meant so much to her and to me.

As I step back from public campaigning for now, I'll remain involved—not through politics, but as your friend, your neighbor, and a fellow member of this community. We're all one big family here in Newlands. Let's keep it that way. Let's stay connected, stay strong, and continue to support each other beyond politics.

With heartfelt thanks,  
Raul Gonzalez Jr.