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PRESS RELEASE

2026 Sugarcane Harvest and Milling Season Officially Opens in Northern Belize

Belmopan, January 19, 2026.

The Government of Belize, alongside the Belize Sugarcane Farmers Associations and the mill, officially opened the 2026 Sugarcane Harvest and Milling Season today, marking the start of a crop year defined by improved conditions, stronger coordination, and positive production prospects across Northern Belize.

The 2026 season begins with healthier cane fields, improved harvest quality, and greater operational readiness throughout the industry. Farmers, associations, millers, and technical partners have completed extensive preparation to ensure a timely, efficient, and productive harvest and milling process.

Enhanced field management practices strengthened disease monitoring, and favourable recent weather conditions have contributed to a more stable and promising crop. Early indicators point to improved cane quality and a smoother start to the milling season, supporting better outcomes for farmers and the wider economy.

Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño emphasized the importance of perseverance as the season gets underway. “In the face of disease, labour shortages, climate change shocks, rising costs, and delayed starts, you chose not to retreat. You chose to plant, to maintain, to prepare. You chose entrepreneurship over fear, keeping your families fed and your communities alive. Belize owes you a debt of gratitude.”

The 2026 crop reflects a high level of coordination across the sugarcane value chain: from harvesting and transportation to milling operations. This coordination continues positioning the industry for greater efficiency and resilience throughout the season.

As harvesting and milling commence, the 2026 sugarcane crop season opens with confidence, shared purpose, and optimism for a safe, productive, and successful harvest for all stakeholders.

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For more information, please contact:

Mr. Carlos Pol

Chief Executive Officer

Ministry of Economic Transformation