

## YUKURIBA CREATIVE FARMING COMMUNITY - A DREAM DEFERRED



View from Yukuriba Heights “...far from the noise of language - where gods still brood on thrones of rock” – Martin Carter

**Yukuriba Creative Farming Community (YCFC)** an Agro/Cultural sanctuary for artists, was conceived over twenty (20) years ago, to be established on my farm at Yukuriba Falls. **This** scenic location sitting on a hill overlooking Yukuriba’s rapids on its Essequibo River frontage and out toward the forested mountains, is a delicious slice of Guyana – last of Pristine Amazonia... only pristine tropical rainforest remaining in the world. Yukuriba encompasses three hundred and fifty-seven (357) acres, one hundred and forty six hectares (146 ha).

The vision is for YCFC as an Agro/Cultural Tourism environment, **organically cultivating agricultural crops and fresh, creative, ideas** to be the exemplar for those involved in the Arts and the Humanities of what the **Iwokrama International Centre for Rain Forest Conservation and Development** [www.iwokrama.org](http://www.iwokrama.org) means to the global scientific community. Apart from the symbolic conscience of the Guyana Rainforest environment, YCFC has aspired over the years to become the ideal for all under-funded and marginalized communities throughout Guyana, demonstrating that desirable levels of progress and development can be achieved

when people are motivated to recognize the value of pooled resources; to believe, organize and centralize; proving that a cultural agro-community can tap into the energy of its own strengths to battle problems that stalk development.

However, our dream was deferred by deliberate attempts at sabotage by agents of the PPPC government; we were forced to fight the Attorney General and the Commissioner of Lands in Court for eight years; then later on to evict illegal settlers from the land, while relentlessly nurturing this dream.

With the expectation of the dawn of a new era in which vision will trump greed and corruption in the governance of Guyana after the May 11, 2015 General Elections, we believe that the Yukuriba Creative Farming Community's time has come; we stand ready to take our place in the vanguard of a Cultural Tourism industry in Guyana.

Joan Cambridge  
Chief Convening Officer (CCO)  
Yukuriba Creative Farming Community