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Arnold confident of Savannah Panorama

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PAN TRINBAGO President Patrick Arnold is confident that Panorama semifinals will, indeed, be held on Queen's Park Savannah in Port-of-Spain, come Carnival 2007.

Arnold, in a brief phone interview on Friday, said his organisation was expecting to get word from Government on their ultimatum of "Savannah or no Panorama" by tomorrow (Tuesday), for the latest.

"I am sure that we will get the Queen's Park Savannah. There are other parts of the Savannah that we can hold Panorama.

"In fact, the Savannah itself is still being used for football and rugby. There are fetes that are normally held in other parts of the Savannah.

"What they should have said is that they would not allow use of the current Savannah facilities, but not the entire Savannah," said Arnold.

Members of the pan fraternity met in an emergency extraordinary meeting at the Grand Stand on Thurs-

day, when many vented their frustration with the current impasse.

Two resolutions were taken during the meeting: One was that Government must act with haste as regards a venue for Panorama, and two that Minister of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs Joan Yuille-Williams request that both chairman and deputy chairman retain their positions on the National Carnival Commission (NCC).

Chairman Kenny de Silva had submitted his resignation in March, while his deputy, Ainsworth Mohammed, resigned about two weeks ago.

The Urban Development Corporation of T&T (Udecott) announced that demolition of the Grand Stand and other connecting facilities will begin early in the new year.

Arnold has insisted that Udecott engineers and chairman Calder Hart had approved Pan Trinbago's plans to use the western end of the Savannah, including constructing a new stage and two stands for Panorama semifinals.



Pan Trinbago president **PATRICK ARNOLD**, second from left, makes a point during Pan Trinbago's emergency extraordinary meeting last Thursday at the Grand Stand, Queen's Park Savannah, where the organisation delivered an ultimatum to government: either have the 2007 Panorama in the Savannah or face cancellation of the show. **PHOTO: SEAN NERO**