Address by Community Safety and Transport Management MEC, Dr Mpho Motlhabane - Provincial Youth Road Safety Summit in the Naledi Local Municipality  $-14^{th}$  May 2015

**Programme Directors** 

Naledi Local Municipality Mayor

MMC's for Safety from different Municipalities present

National Department of Transport Representatives

Senior Managers of the Department present

Road Traffic Management

Road Traffic Infringement Agency

Road Accident Fund

Disability of South Africa

Youth Structures Representatives

Media Houses

Bagaetsho lotlhe Dumela

Ke tshepa fa loeto la lona gotla kwano e nnile le le babalesegileng go tswa mafelong a farologaneng a Porofense. Ke dumedise baeng ba rona gotswa kantoro e kgolo ya lefapha la Dipalangwa la bosetshaba -National Department of Transport. You have already been welcomed in Bokone Bophirima particularly in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati Region.

Ke boitumelo bo bogolo mo gonna go nna le Baemedi ba basha gotswa di khutlong tse nne tsa Porofense. Ka mantswe a mangwe re kare lo di delegates mo summit eno.

I feel so energised and young today because of the young vibrant faces that I see here. This is your summit and can't agree more with you when you say "nothing about us without us." I was born before technology (BBT) but trust me **"#BEING SAFE IS COOL"** le nna ke moteng ga ke salele ko morago.

### Programme Director

We have gathered here today from yesterday for the Youth Road Safety Summit which is surely going to end today. The Provincial Road Safety Youth Summits come as a result of the Annual National Road Safety Summit which took place on 13-14 November 2015 at the Ratanga Junction in Western Cape.

**"Youth and Road Safety"**. The Commission was attended by the Youth from different youth structures. The aim was to have the Youth organised and robustly participating as an integral part of our Road Safety Programmes. The 5th resolution out of the 9 resolutions taken by the Youth and Road Safety Commission is to conduct Provincial Youth Summits in 2016. These Youth Summits will culminate to the National Youth Summit. Last weekend Limpopo held their Summit and this weekend is us and other provinces will follow.

### The objectives of the Youth Summits are the following:

- give a voice to young people on the road safety issue
- contribute to a shift in attitudes and behaviour towards road safety among young people
- encourage and support a cadre of national leaders for road safety
- launch the "Youth Declaration for Road Safety", a document describing the views of young people on what they, their parents, teachers, government leaders and others can do to improve road safety, which will be used to catalyse attention and spur action around the world

Our contribution as a Departement has been a significant one. During Easter 2015 the Department recorded a heart breaking 28 deaths just in 5 days. Hence we developed a different plan in 2016 to turn the corner and indeed it owrked wanders.

This year during Easter we recorded 8 deaths in 5 days which is a reduction of clean 71%. Surely, that on its own is the Rebranding, Repositioning and Renewal of Bokone Bophirima. We are on a journey to reduce road accidents by half come 2020 since we are the signatory to the United Nation Decade of Road Safety 2020.

We must now show that we master the Saamtrek, Saamwerk philosophy in Bokone Bophirima and is the way to go. Bontsi bo bolaya noga. We have now added another battalion and from here we should be ready and sharpened to tackle bad and dangerous driving. This government of Bokone Bophirima also believe in Villages, Township and Small Dorpies-VTSD that is why when we were directed by the National Government to spread our wings during the selection to include villages. We trust that now as our Road Safety Ambassadors you have been empowered to make as much noice as you can about road safety given platforms including those that you will create. "#BEING SAFE IS COOL."

According to statistics, young people are the highest casualties in almost every accident that happens either as a passenger or driver, especially on weekends and at the early hours of the morning; you know what I'm talking about. Ooh Morena boloka setshaba saetsho. You are our future leader that's why this government is investing on you. Charity begins at home so let's get our house in order first, before we can go out and spread the word.

You should be able to engage your peers at Schools, Colleges, Universities, Churches Youth groups etc. *Botlhale jwa phala botswa phalaneng. Kgaka kgolo ga kena mebala mebala e di kgakaneng.* The ANC led government is investing in you because it cares for its people, yesterday we visited a family in Klerksdorp-Jouberton which lost 6 family members in an accident and injured 4. The deceased will be buried today, "may their soul rest in eternal peace" and pray for a speedy recovery for the injured.

#### Programme Director

Let take this moment to thank everyone who have made this important occasion a success. I know that there are some Agencies that have contributed a lot for this

summit but I will not be tempted to single anyone out. Yesterday I had the opportunity to make a turn at the Hall and it was so beautiful and hope that you all enjoyed ourselves.

I do not want to bore you with long speeches; I believe that you are all looking forward for an exciting day and confident that you will give your best at your commissions and produce a document that will help Department of Transport to halve road crashes by 2020.

## **#Maximum Participation.**

Enjoy yourself and make yourself unforgettable.

# ke a leboga