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Department of Public Works North West Provincial Government Republic of South Africa Modiri Molema Road DPW Provincial Head Office Mmabatho, 2735 Private Bag X 2037, Mmabatho, 2735 Tel.: +27 (18) 387 2002 Fax.: +27 (18) 387 2868

We're poised to empower more than 100 contractors over three years...

Dubbed "Le Bolotse", this initiative will impart technical skills and entrepreneurship

Date: Friday, March 06,2009

By Staff Reprter

Public Works North West is poised to unleash and develop contractors found at the tailend of the scale, without a muscle to challenge and shove off the monopoly often enjoyed by their established counterparts.

At least 40 contractors annually would benefit from "**Le Bolotse**" over the next three years. This translates into more than 120 contractors we seek to empower.

Structured as a learnership programme and based on the Construction Education Training Authority (CETA), the department's Contractor Development Programme seeks to develop entrepreneurial, business and technical skills of contractors.

Those targeted by the programme are constructors with GB1 and GB2 grading by the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) only.

Candidates willing to come on board this noble idea must be willing to register a corporate entity- a Closed Corporation or (Pty) Ltd - and obtain a valid tax clearance certificate in due course.

They must also be willing to enter, full time, into a National Qualification Framework (NQF) Level 2 manager learnership contract for two years.

Candidates must meet the following requirements to be considered for the programme: Be Historically Disadvantaged Individuals including women, youth and people living with disabilities.

Be in possession of a Grade 12 qualification, however those with qualifications below Grade 12 should obtain a Recognition of Prior Learning.

We have planned compulsory briefing sessions for interested candidates before the rollout in all four districts of the province.

Application forms and more details about the programme will be available at the following venues, all at 10am.

• Bojanala District: **March 23, 2009**; at Zendeling Street, Old Industrial Area, Rustenburg.

- Ngaka Modiri Molema District: March 24, 2009; Embassy Hall in Mafikeng
- Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati: March 25, 2009; 20 Malt Street, Industrial Site, Vryburg.
- Dr Kenenth Kaunda District: March 27, 2009; 149 Kruis Street in Potchefstroom.

Coordinator of "**Le Bolotse**", Motlapele Ntshabele, warned that candidates who do not attend scheduled briefing sessions in their respective areas will automatically be disqualified. Same will be applied to candidates who fail to correctly fill-in the application forms and submit before deadline.

" In the event that the total number of applicants, who meet the requirements, is more than the total number of available opportunities, the department's decision will be final," Ntshabele said.

She said experience in construction, owning or managing businesses and possession of qualifications higher than the specified minimum will count in the favour of applicants.

The closing date for the applications will be April 17, 2009 at 11am and applications can be placed in tender boxes at the respective District Offices.

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