

NORTH WEST PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT COMMEMORATES WORLD AIDS DAY



By Tshenolelo Zebedielo

Speaking at a recent World Aids Day commemoration under the theme "Renewed Efforts and Sustainable Commitments to End AIDS" in Tlhabane, Rustenburg, North West Premier Lazarus Mokgosi said that this theme reminds the province that ending this contagious pandemic is achievable, but it is a task that requires all stakeholders to play an active role.

"This reminds us that ending AIDS is not only possible, but within reach. However, it requires reinvigorated political will, strengthened partnership between government, civil society, and business, and deeper community participation", Premier Mokgosi said.

Premier Mokgosi expressed pride that over ninety-five percent of the people who are infected by this disease in the province know their status.

"As part of our ongoing efforts to find lasting solutions to this

pandemic, I am proud to report that we have made significant strides in the fight against HIV and AIDS. Ninety-six percent of people living with HIV in our province know their status, this means that we are doing very well", Premier Mokgosi said.

Premier Mokgosi further said that this day remains a critical reminder that the fight against HIV/AIDS is far from over.

Representing the Civil Society, Mildred Maropefela said that they are hard at work to ensure that all people who are infected by this

disease take their treatment.

"We have a good initiative and a large campaign, which looks at people living with the HIV/AIDS virus who are not on treatment, and we are finding ways on how they can be brought back to taking their treatment, it is a work in progress", Maropefela said.

Maropefela further encouraged attendees to be tested and if they get diagnosed with the disease to take their treatment and those that receive negative outcomes to continue using condoms or abstain from sexual activities.

MINISTER RAMOKGOPHA TACKLES LOAD REDUCTION HEAD ON

By Zintle Xaba

Minister of Electricity and Energy, Kgosientsho Ramokgophha recently visited the Bakgatla feeder in Mogwase village, Moses Kotane local municipality to monitor progress on load reduction interventions in the area, this followed his recent announcement to alleviate load reduction in the country by upgrading infrastructure, installing of smart meters, refurbishing feeders, balance-of-load projects, and educating customers.

This is the first selected feeder in the country as this area is significantly affected by load reduction caused by network constraints, infrastructure overload, high technical and non-technical losses, and rapid consumer growth. These supply challenges have affected businesses and livelihoods negatively.

Minister Ramokgophha said that the plan aims to fully eradicate load reduction within 12-18 months, however this will solely depend on cooperation from communities and implementation progress.

"We promise the country that we are going to ensure that the 1.69 million households that are subjected to load reduction on a daily basis will be free from this problem within the next 12-18 months. We have chosen to launch this in the North West, one of the most affected areas in relation to load-reduction", Minister Ramokgophha said.

North West Premier Lazarus Mokgosi said that he believes that communities are content as the committee representing them expressed gratitude for minister



Ramokgophha's intervention.

"We are strongly of the view that the communities are happy as the committee says it welcomes the intervention, and we have been waiting for a very long period, and we believe that with the Minister's intervention the issue of load reduction will be resolved", Premier Mokgosi said.

Premier Mokgosi further appreciated this ministry for kick starting the rolling out of this initiative in this province.

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS GRANTS JB MARKS LOCAL MUNICIPALITY ACCREDITATION TO EXECUTE LEVEL ONE SUBSIDY DUTIES

By Keorapetse Mosipidi

The North West Provincial Government through Department of Human Settlements recently granted the JB Marks Local Municipality accreditation to perform Level One subsidy functions. This means that the municipality will be responsible for managing and administering housing subsidies in the area.

Speaking during the signing ceremony, North West Premier Lazarus Mokgosi said the agreement will facilitate a collaborative framework in which the Provincial Government and the Local Municipality operate as partners towards a shared commitment to service delivery and excellence.

"Housing is not merely about brick and mortar; it is the cornerstone of dignity, security, and opportunity. Through this implementation protocol, we are entrusting the JB Marks Local Municipality with greater autonomy and resources to address the housing needs of our residents".

"This decentralization of power is a bold move that underscores our belief in local governance and its proximity to the people, for they better understand the needs of a community than those who pass-by its streets every day", Premier Mokgosi said.

Premier Mokgosi further said that the signing of the agreement will go a long way in addressing the housing backlog that the Department is currently facing. He said with this development, the municipality will be able to implement housing projects faster and the department will retain its



oversight role.

Sharing Premier Mokgosi sentiments, MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs Gaoage Oageng Molapisi said that the municipality will be responsible for the management and administering of housing projects and programmes as per the level

one accreditation functions, this includes budget planning, identification of housing projects and programmes, beneficiary management and housing subsidy registration among many other programmes.

He added that the department has already appointed a service provider as part of its post

accreditation support plan to assist the municipality with the implementation protocol.

"The department will provide the municipality with all the necessary assistance for them to be able to carry out these tasks and ensure that communities receive efficient housing services", MEC Molapisi said.

COGTA HANDS OVER THE INITIATION PERMITS TO LAUNCH THE SUMMER INITIATION SEASON

Boitumelo Seleka and Thebeetsile Keameditse

Ganyesa - "A baye ba tshela, ebole ba boe ba heletse". These were the words of Kgosi Thato Letlhogile, the leader of Barolong bo Tlou le Tau traditional community in Ganyesa, as he called for the safe return of all initiates who will be participating in the upcoming Summer Initiation season.

This was at a recent launch of the Summer Initiation season by the department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA) and the Provincial Coordinating Committee (PICC) where Kgosi Letlhogile handed over initiation permits to caregivers, traditional surgeons, initiation school principals and traditional leaders in this village.

CoGTA and PICC handed over participation certificates to four hundred and forty-six (446)



traditional schools owners (Bo Ramophato) as the Batswana community affectionately knows them.

The Secretary of the Local Initiation Committee (LIC),

Ohaletse Serame said that over 2 000 initiates are participating in this year's Summer Initiation season in the Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District and this is unusual. The committee had requested

cooperation from all stakeholders to ensure that all schools are compliant with the law.

Kgosi Letlhogile urged all certified participants to uphold safety, discipline and preserve the culture, emphasising the importance of caring for every initiate.

"I am appealing for commitment to safeguarding the initiation tradition so that next year, we welcome yet another strong flock of young men who will proudly return as graduates of our cherished custom" Kgosi Letlhogile said.

The department and this committee are now monitoring those schools.

The committee also pleaded with all participants in the district to ensure that all customary initiation norms are adhered to, to ensure that there is a safe, well-coordinated, and culturally acceptable initiation season for all communities.

All the initiates must have graduated on 9 January next or prior to that day.



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NORTH WEST LIQUOR LICENSING ACT NOW IN FULL EFFECT FOR 2025/26, CONFIRMS MEC LENKOPANE

By Seloane Seleka

The North West Liquor Licensing Act, 2016 (Act No. 6 of 2016), has officially come into effect for the 2025/26 financial year. This was confirmed by the MEC for Economic Development, Environment, Conservation, and Tourism, Bitsa Lenkopane, who announced that all required legislative processes had been completed during the bill stage.

As part of the implementation, the Department's Liquor Regulations Unit began the annual liquor license renewal period on 14 November. The process will continue until 26 February next year, and all licence holders are required to comply with the updated renewal fees now in force. The published schedule of fees applies uniformly across the province, and payments must be made strictly in accordance with the Act.

The Department has moved to clarify its position following recent public claims made by a group purporting to represent liquor licence holders, encouraging them not to renew their licenses due to the increase in fees as per the new Provincial Act. At this stage, the Department emphasises that such statements do not reflect the position of the broader liquor industry and urges the traders to adhere to their license conditions by renewing for the 2025/26 financial year.

"We have already assisted a significant number of license holders in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District who have complied with the legislation, while others are awaiting the unfolding of the renewal process. There will be no consideration of any reduction in



the fees. The current fees are a product of extensive and transparent consultations conducted during the legislative process and are therefore binding in law", MEC Lenkopane said.

MEC Lenkopane further noted that since the campaign commenced, the department had collected R496,000 from liquor traders within local municipalities in

the Dr. Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District. The renewal campaign will next move to the Agricultural College in Potchefstroom, along with other scheduled areas. All liquor traders are urged to respond to the call and renew their licenses promptly.

In addition to addressing misinformation, the Department has issued a warning about a growing scam targeting liquor traders. Fraudsters have reportedly been impersonating liquor officials and contacting business owners to solicit payments for licence renewals through cash-send and e-wallet services.

The Department emphasised that these actions are illegal and they deceive unsuspecting traders.

Liquor traders and members of the public are urged to stay vigilant, verify information directly with the Department, and avoid making any payments outside the approved renewal processes.

The Department reiterated its commitment to maintaining a fair, transparent, and legally compliant liquor licensing environment as the 2025/26 financial year unfolds.

NORTH WEST OFFICE OF THE PREMIER LEADS NSFAS APPLICATIONS ROADSHOW TO EMPOWER LEARNERS



By Neo Modupi and Lerato Madondo

In ensuring that all learners access tertiary education in 2026 academic year despite their backgrounds, Office of the Premier's Youth Advocacy Programme in partnership with various stakeholders recently embarked on National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) roadshow drive in three high schools to assist pupils to apply for financial help at this financial institution online.

Those were Tlhoafalo and Tirisano High schools in Sannieshof, Tswaing local municipality and Leruntse Lesedi high school in Wolmaranstad,

Maquassi Hills local municipality.

The stakeholders included amongst others, National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), the South African Youth Council (SAYC) and University of South Africa (UNISA).

As many Grade 12 pupils are still lagging behind to access digital services and reliable information, Kebaabetswe Nkate who coordinated this roadshow said it also served as a platform to raise awareness about other tertiary funding institutions.

She further said that Office's working relationship with these partners demonstrates a solid commitment towards youth development and plays an imperative role in helping eligible prospective students to realise their academic aspirations.

"The ongoing partnership with

these stakeholders shows a commitment to youth development by ensuring that financial constraints and lack of resources do not hinder them to access higher learning, this collaboration plays a critical role in shaping the future of the youth of this province", she said.

To motivate top performing learners to continue doing exceptionally well on their studies in those schools, NSFAS gifted them with brand new laptops, three were given to three learners in Tlhoafalo High school, three to three learners in Tirisano high school while five were handed to five pupils in Leruntse Lesedi High School.

Amogelang Motlhale who received the laptop appreciated the gesture and said that she will use

the device for online tutorials and will further utilize it at the university next year.

"This laptop symbolizes recognition for my hard work and it encourages me to continue striving towards my academic dreams", Motlhale said.

Chris Motshwane, departmental Head for Science subjects at Tirisano Secondary school said this addresses digital barriers that learners encounter on a day-to-day and further said that this initiative is indeed a beacon of hope on their learners.

"With these gadgets, our learners will do their best and this initiative gave them hope and high moral towards their studies, this really revived their spirits that it is possible to further their studies regardless of their background", he said.

DUNLOP WHEEL AND ALIGNMENT PROJECT CREATES ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR JB MARKS LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

By Mpumi Mashike

Intensifying the local economy, North West Premier Lazarus Mokgosi alongside the MEC for Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism (DEECT), Bitsa Lenkopane and MMC for Local Economic Development (LED) in JB Marks local municipality, Cllr Malverine Davis handed over the Dunlop Fitment Center site at Ikageng Township at the recent Thuntsha Lerole activity at the area.

This initiative forms part of the department's broader mission to fight unemployment and poverty through entrepreneurship and skills development.

This is evident that a commitment made in the previous financial year is starting to bear fruit, when this site is completed, it will become a vibrant trading hub for informal traders and small businesses, providing a safe, formalised environment that nurtures entrepreneurship, strengthens MSME participation, and supports sustainable livelihoods.

Premier Mokgosi said that this accelerated service delivery programme shows the level of commitment the provincial government has to change the socio-economic conditions of the people of this province.

"The Thuntsha Lerole Programme demonstrates the government's commitment to improving the lives of our people through tangible, on-the-ground initiatives. By supporting Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and empowering communities, we are building a sustainable and self-reliant



provincial economy", Premier Mokgosi said.

To strengthen support to local enterprise development, the department, in partnership with Absa Bank, recently trained 58 informal traders in business and financial management. The group includes operators in sectors such as salons, shoe-making, tuckshops, laundry, motor spares, car wash, shisanyama outlets, and catering services.

Graduates of this programme will receive start-up resources and ongoing support to help them

establish and grow viable and competitive businesses.

MEC Lenkopane reaffirmed the department's unwavering commitment to creating opportunities for ordinary citizens, especially youth and women.

"Our goal is to ensure that every initiative we launch translates into real impact, empowering families, stimulating local economies, and restoring dignity through meaningful work. The Dunlop project, our business training, and our environmental programmes are all steps towards that vision,"

said MEC Lenkopane.

To ensure sustainability, the department will continue supporting the Dunlop project through its various programmes. Through the Business Regulations Unit, the department will assist participants with business permit registration to ensure compliance and formalisation. Additional support will include business development assistance, market linkages, and aftercare services to strengthen operational capacity.

Furthermore, the Business Licensing Unit will guide informal traders in applying for business licences and facilitate the adjudication process through the relevant authorities. Formalisation will enable these enterprises to be integrated into the departmental enterprise database, improving their access to other government support programmes, including the Tuckshop Programme led by the National Department of Small Business Development.

As part of the departmental Matlakala ke Zaka campaign promoting environmental sustainability, MEC Lenkopane announced plans to assist out-of-school Youth Environmental Clubs to register a cooperative that will conduct regular cleaning campaigns in and around the project site.

"The environmental club will have a great opportunity to collect and recycle waste generated by informal traders within the Dunlop Project area, turning waste into wealth while promoting a circular economy", MEC Lenkopane added.

These integrated initiatives further aim to transform local enterprise infrastructure, empower MSMEs, and create real job opportunities, advancing inclusive growth and sustainable economic development across the Province.

LET US WORK TOGETHER TO STOP RABIES, PROTECT FAMILIES AND SAFEGUARD COMMUNITIES



By Thebe Itumeleng

Rabies continues to be one of the most serious public health and veterinary challenges worldwide, to ensure that our pets do not fall victims of this, The North West Department of Agriculture and Rural Development reminds communities that rabies is preventable, but only if everyone plays their part.

This disease is viral and spreads primarily through the bite of an infected animal and is usually fatal once symptoms appear. For this reason, prevention through vaccination and rapid reporting is not just recommended, it is essential.

Dogs and cats are the most common carriers, but livestock and wild animals can also spread the

virus. Because rabies attacks the nervous system, it causes severe illness in both animals and humans. Protecting pets through vaccination directly protects households, strengthens food security, and safeguards community health.

Rabies is a zoonotic disease, meaning it can pass from animals to humans. Once the virus enters the body, it spreads quickly to the brain, leading to neurological symptoms such as aggression, paralysis, and confusion. In animals, sudden changes in behavior are often the first warning signs. A once calm dog may become aggressive, while another may appear weak or unable to move. Excessive drooling, difficulty swallowing, and unusual vocal sounds are also indicators. Recognizing these symptoms early is critical for preventing outbreaks.

Stopping rabies requires vigilance at the community level. If

an animal shows suspicious symptoms, residents should not attempt to handle it themselves. Instead, they must report the case immediately to their nearest state or private veterinarian. Municipal agricultural offices are staffed with trained technicians who can investigate and respond quickly. Timely reporting prevents rabies from spreading further, protecting both human health and livestock.

Vaccination remains the most effective way to stop rabies. Pet owners are strongly encouraged to vaccinate dogs and cats at veterinary facilities. Vaccination is simple, affordable, and lifesaving. A vaccinated pet is safe from rabies, and that safety extends to the household and the wider community. Farmers are also urged to ensure livestock are vaccinated where necessary, as outbreaks can have devastating effects on food production and rural

economies.

Rabies is preventable, but prevention requires collective responsibility. Pet owners must vaccinate their animals, communities must stay alert, and suspected cases must be reported without delay. The Department emphasizes that protecting pets means protecting families, and protecting families means safeguarding the wider community.

The fight against rabies is not the responsibility of the government alone. It is a shared mission that requires cooperation between veterinarians, farmers, pet owners, and community members. Every vaccination, every report, and every act of vigilance contributes to a safer environment.

Together, through awareness, responsibility, and vaccination, we can stop rabies. Together, we can save lives. Act today, protect your animals, protect your family, and protect your community.

GBVF TOPS AGENDA OF SAFER FESTIVE SEASON OPERATIONS



By Lemogang Pule

In a concerted effort to curb the plague of Gender Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) that has officially been declared a national disaster and continues to affect the most vulnerable, the South African Police Service (SAPS) in the North West Province has activated the 2025 Safer Festive Season Campaign with a sharp focus on GBVF amongst other forms of crime.

The heightened, multidisciplinary Provincial Joint Operational and Intelligence Structure (PROVJOINTS) led operation runs from 01 October 2025 to 31 January 2026. This is to ensure the implementation of advanced crime prevention and combat strategies to address patterns of criminality that occur during the busiest period of the



year.

Crime statistics point to troubling cases of rape, sexual harassment, assault, assault with grievous bodily harm, and murder, with victims mainly being women, children, the elderly, and persons with disability. This has given rise to a zero-tolerance approach by all role players in the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security (JCPS) Cluster to drive sustainable solutions in order to address the scourge holistically.

"Perpetrators must be held

accountable, and as a matter of urgency, all acts of GBVF will be taken seriously, investigated thoroughly, and addressed with appropriate sanctions while providing adequate support for survivors," said the MEC for Community Safety and Transport Management, Wessels Morweng, at the launch in Kanana township.

"We will also be activating GBVF campaigns throughout the four districts, targeting hotspot areas to raise awareness, engage

communities to form part of our intervention efforts as government, and achieve collective action," added MEC Morweng.

The safer festive season operation is carried out in three different phases according to identified crime trends and situational patterns. GBVF, being the primary focus, is given prominence throughout the phases. Speaking during the launch, Major General Patrick Asaneng says plans are intensified in phase two of the operation during the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children.

"The 16 Days of Activism falls within our second phase of the operation, where there is a spike in incidents of violence against women and children.

"We are on standby to deal with all eventualities. We will ensure that our police stations have adequate support, functional victim-friendly rooms, and dedicated officials to manage GBVF desks as central points for cases," said Major General Asaneng. The government, through many support services, continues to reaffirm its commitment to eradicate GBVF. However, the public has a significant role to play in eradication. Incidents of domestic violence, for one, often happen behind closed doors, making it difficult to be policed. To ensure that domestic and other forms of violence are dealt with adequately, members of the public as a whole are encouraged to speak out against abuse in its entirety. Furthermore, to ensure that perpetrators are held accountable through the justice system, victims are discouraged from withdrawing cases. National GBV Hotline: 0800 150 150

MEC MOLAPISI LEADS CLEAN CITIES CAMPAIGN IN VENTERSDORP



By Lerato Modise

The MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA), Gaoage Oageng Molapisi recently led a successful Clean Cities Campaign in Ventersdorp as part of the Accelerated Service Delivery Programme (ASDP) Thuntha Lerole at the JB Marks Local Municipality.

The initiative brought together various stakeholders, including municipal officials, community members, and youth volunteers, who joined hands to restore cleanliness and pride in their community.

The campaign forms part of CoGTA's broader commitment to



promoting clean, healthy, and sustainable environments across the province. Through activities such as waste collection, cleaning of public spaces, and environmental awareness drives, the programme demonstrates the Department's dedication to working hand in hand with communities to create lasting change.

Speaking during the campaign, MEC Molapisi emphasized the importance of collective responsibility in maintaining our towns.

"A clean environment is a reflection of our values and our respect for one another. By working together, we can build communities we are proud to live in, not only for us, but for future generations to come," he said.

The Clean Cities Campaign not only enhances service delivery but also encourages civic pride and active citizen participation. It serves as a reminder that the success of government programmes relies heavily on community involvement and shared ownership. Through initiatives like This Accelerated Service Delivery, the department continues to drive the message that service delivery begins with each one of us doing our part to build better, cleaner, and more sustainable communities.

This initiative also reinforces the Department's ongoing efforts to support municipalities in strengthening local governance and service delivery. This is through fostering collaboration between government, traditional leaders, and communities, the department aims to ensure that every citizen enjoys access to a safe, clean, and dignified environment, laying the foundation for stronger, more resilient municipalities across the province.

FARMERS ENCOURAGED TO MARKET THEIR PRODUCTS LOCALLY



By Staff Reporter

Speaking at a recent two-day District Farmers summit at Palmietfontein farms near Ventersdorp in JB Marks local municipality, MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, Madoda Sambatha recently encouraged farmers in Dr Kenneth Kaunda District municipality to refrain from working in silos and start working together to realize their agricultural aspirations as they already have the much needed farming land.

The summit is a brainchild of a collaboration between this district



municipality's Local Economic Development (LED) Unit and DARD.

"It is impossible for government to succeed at this without farmers realising the abundant corporate agricultural infrastructure this

district has, it has the potential to create commercial farmers. The main problem here is your inability to work as a group. Each one of you wants to work as an individual and that prohibits your potential to succeed in farming", MEC

Sambatha said.

MEC Sambatha told these farmers that it would be easier for government to assist them if they work as cooperatives.

"We cannot approve funding for a tractor and implements for an individual because the law does not allow us to. However, if you are a group it can be done provided you have all the necessary documentation and knowledge of the agricultural stream you want to follow", MEC Sambatha said.

He further said that farmers can easily determine the price of their produce to the corporate local buyers only if they are able to create local farmers co-operative, which gives them the power to dictate the selling price of their products.

MEC SAMBATHA SUPPORT FUELS NORTH WEST GRAIN FARMERS' DRIVE FOR HIGHER YIELDS

By Thebe Itumeleng

The North West Department of Agriculture and Rural Development recently launched the 2025/26 Provincial Planting Season under the theme "Sustainable Crop Production for Food Security and Growth" at the Retladirela Cooperative in Dwarskraal, Tswaing Local Municipality. The launch placed farmers at the center, showing how government programmes are designed to strengthen their work and improve food security across the province.

The launch reflects the Department's commitment to farmers as the backbone of agriculture by providing land, tools, and technical support, the programme ensures that farming families can grow stronger, contribute to food security, and secure the long-term vitality of rural communities across the North West.

Speaking at the launch, MEC Madoda Sambatha emphasized that the Department's role is to stand alongside farmers, ensuring they have the resources and knowledge needed to succeed. He reminded participants that every seed planted is not only about the current season but about building stronger communities and resilient rural economies.

The planting season is part of the Department's Crop Massification Programme, which aims to activate land, provide mechanization, and supply production inputs to farmers. This year, over 6,000 hectares will be cultivated across the province, with more than 2,500 hectares set aside in Ngaka Modiri Molema District alone, supported by an investment



of over R23 million.

The Cooperative, operating on 565 hectares, is one of the key beneficiaries. For this season, the cooperative will plant maize and sugar beans across 250 hectares. Farmers at the cooperative welcomed the support, noting that mechanization has reduced the time required for soil preparation and planting, allowing them to focus on increasing yields and improving efficiency.

The mechanization package provided includes tractors,



planters, sprayers, trailers, and other equipment. These tools were demonstrated during the launch, giving farmers practical exposure to modern techniques that save

time and improve precision. For farmers, this support means less manual labor, more productivity, and the ability to plant larger areas in shorter periods.



Public Announcement

MDB calls for objections on electoral wards for batch 2 municipalities, which were affected by deferred municipal boundary determination cases



The Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB) has determined wards and to that effect, notices have been published in Provincial Gazettes inviting any person aggrieved by a determination of municipal wards to within 14 days of publication of the Provincial Gazette, submit objections in writing to the Board.

Written objections can be submitted through the following platforms:

registry@demarcation.org.za

MDB 5 Form (www.demarcation.org.za)

Fax: 086 524 8643

The gazettes are available on: www.demarcation.org.za

North West Province

MUNICIPALITY	PUBLICATION DATE	GAZETTE NO	NOTICE NO
JB Marks Local Municipality (NW405)	18 November 2025	8929	1300

Zwakala Asakhe Amawadi

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MORAL REGENERATION AND SOCIAL COHESION DIALOGUE TACKLES URGENT COMMUNITY CHALLENGES

By Nonofo Lobelo

As part of the Moral Regeneration and social cohesion's broader commitment to building safer, caring and cohesive communities across the Province, North West Provincial Government, in partnership with the Moral Regeneration Movement (MRM) recently convened a robust community dialogue in Coligny that allowed residents to articulate their pressing social challenges.

The engagement brought together community members, traditional leaders, faith-based organisations, and various government departments that

included amongst others South African Police Service (SAPS), Social Development, Education, and Health to respond to the issues raised by residents.

Challenges raised by the community members were, rising criminal activities that include, statutory rape, drug and alcohol abuse among young people and police vehicles that continue to park at local taverns.

Residents associated these social ills with lack of recreational facilities and a growing sense of lawlessness that causes fear on residents.

SAPS representatives assured community members that they are committed to investigating allegations of police misconduct, affirming that disciplinary action will follow when any form of

wrongdoing is confirmed.

They further urged residents to continue reporting criminal activities, and said that there is increased patrols, and strengthened police visibility in the area.

Social Development emphasised the availability of psychosocial services for victims of abuse and encouraged families to seek help early to prevent secondary trauma while Education officials outlined plans to reinforce school safety programmes, strengthen collaboration between parents and schools, and address behavioural challenges among learners.

Health reaffirmed its support to victims of gender-based violence through accessible and confidential health services.

Community leaders expressed appreciation for the dialogue, noting that moral regeneration requires a united effort from households, local leadership, and government structures. They called for renewed commitment to ubuntu, enhanced community involvement, and the creation of positive pathways for young people to deter them from harmful behaviours.

The dialogue ended with an agreement to develop a comprehensive follow-up action plan with clear timelines and departmental responsibilities. Government representatives pledged to return to this township to provide progress updates and ensure accountability in addressing the concerns raised.



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RURAL INNOVATION AND ENTERPRISE ACTIVATION WEEK TRANSFORMS INTO A BUSINESS EXHIBITION FOR EMERGING BUSINESSES



By Staff Reporter

The North West Development Corporation (NWDC) in partnership with the Bakwena Ba Mogopa Community Development Foundation (BMCDF) recently hosted Rural Innovation and Enterprise Activation week in Bethanie village, however, it turned into an interactive workshop and a platform for emerging entrepreneurs to market their goods and services to consumers.

The event echoed the Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) that is marked by more than 20 countries annually.

The stakeholders that participated included amongst others, National Youth Development Agency, National Consumer Commission, South

Africa Revenue Service, African Bank, Agricultural Research Council, North West University, North West Provincial Treasury, and Local Economic Development office in the Rustenburg local municipality.

Encouraging those emerging businesspersons, Renowned and established fashion designer who hails from this village, Kentse Masilo told them that only the sky is the limit and further said that they have to believe in themselves and work hard in order to achieve their business aspirations.

NWDC Acting Small Business Executive, Sam Mudramuthoo said that it is important to form these collaborations as they play a critical role in addressing developmental challenges facing communities.

“It is so critical to form these kinds of partnerships as they provide more impact on the ground and enable us to collectively and effectively address the economic development needs of each



community”, Mudramuthoo said.

BMCDF Chairperson, Pam Segakweng said that this initiative intends to show that communities can lead in resolving their own economic challenges.

“With this initiative, we are aiming to demonstrate that rural communities should not only be

viewed as mere beneficiaries of development; they are the drivers of innovation, enterprise, and economic transformation. We are building pathways where ordinary people can lead economic change; Rethinking, Reorganising & Reimagining Rural Economy”, Segakweng said.

NORTH WEST FEELS THE MAHIKA MAHIKENG FEVER

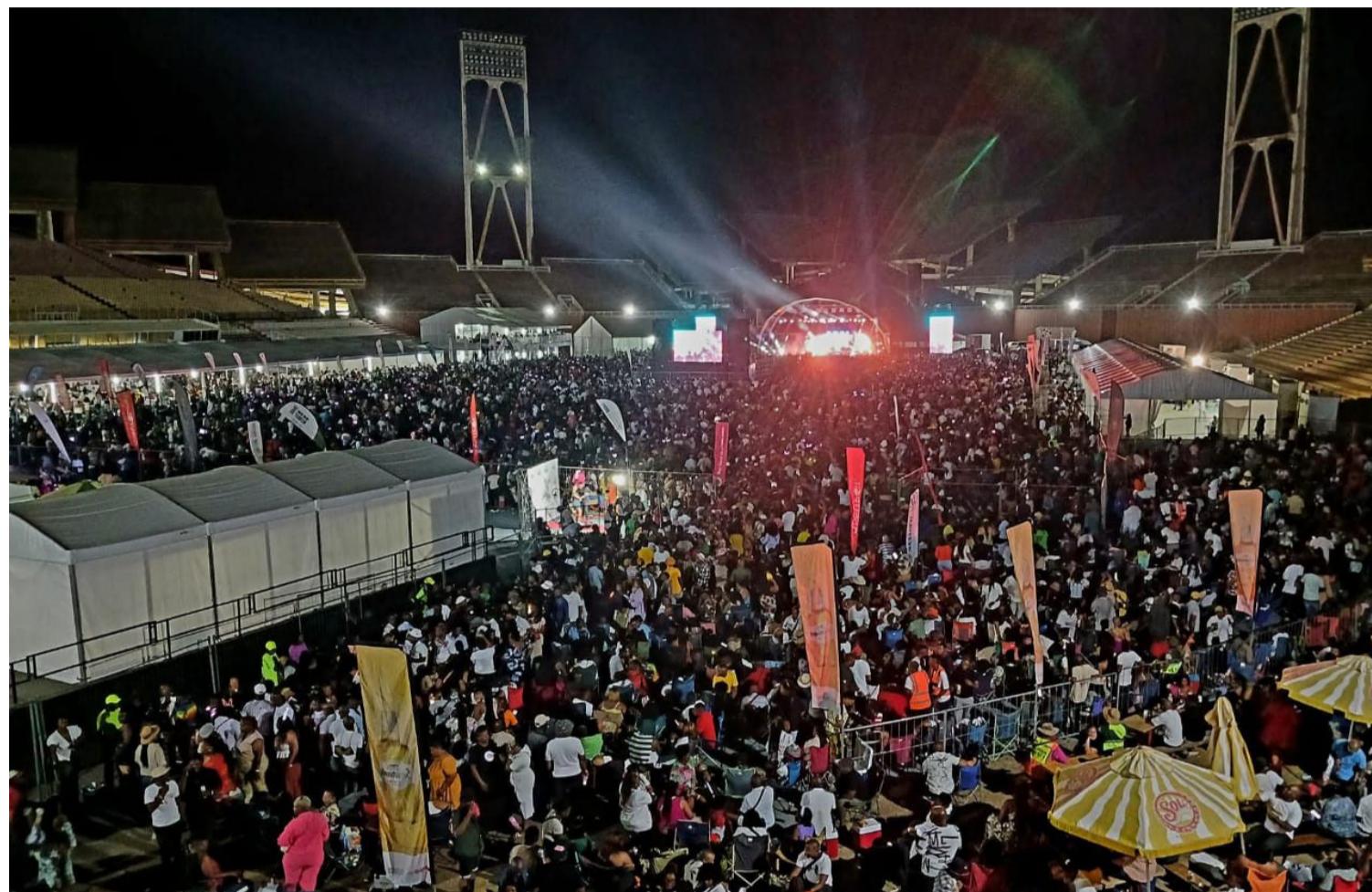
By Vusi Kama

It's Festive Season and one of its key features in the North West is the Mahika Mahikeng Music Cultural Festival. And the Festival has been confirmed for December 12-14 at Mmabatho Stadium and Mmabatho Convention Centre.

Build-up activities are currently taking place at various centres around the Province, Gauteng and Botswana. At the build-up events, potential revellers are treated to song, dance and Festival-related give-aways. They were preceded by an official media launch at Hartesbeespoort Dam in Bojanala.

The events kick off on December 12 at the Mmabatho Stadium, where Khuli Chana, Fifi Cooper and Kabza will be some of the leading acts entertaining the youth. Gospel night on December 13 at the Mmabatho Convention Centre will feature legends such as Benjamin Dube, Busi Radebe and Tebogo Moloi. On December 14 at the Mmabatho Stadium, it will be jazz night with leading acts such as Zonke, KB Motsilenyane, Kelly Khumalo and the Jaziel Brothers.

Tickets are available from Computicket: Youth Festival (12 December 2025 - Mmabatho Stadium Early Bird R200. From 8 December R250 and on the day R300). Gospel Festival (13 December 2025 - Mmabatho Convention Centre, Early Bird R200. From 8 December R250 and on the day R300). Jazz Festival (14 December 2025 - Mmabatho Stadium Early Bird R250. From 8 December R300. On the day R350. Black Friday Special, 27 and 28 November, Youth Festival - All tickets - R180. Gospel Festival - All tickets - R180. Jazz Festival - All tickets - R200.



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