



March 2026 Edition

NORTH WEST PROVINCIAL NEWSPAPER



North West Provincial Government



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North West Office of the Premier



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NORTH WEST CONSUMER AFFAIRS COURT ORDERS REFUND FOLLOWING SUPPLIER'S FAILURE TO DELIVER

The North West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism (DEDECT) has reiterated its commitment to protecting consumers and holding businesses accountable, following a successful intervention by the Consumer Affairs Office and Consumer Affairs Court in a dispute involving a Mahikeng, Lokaleng Village resident and a drilling company.

The case, concluded during World Consumer Rights Day month, highlights the decisive role of the Consumer Affairs Court in enforcing compliance and ensuring that consumers are not exploited.

Ms. Josephine Seithamo of Lokaleng Village entered into an agreement with Francois Drilling (Pty) Ltd in November 2023 for the drilling of a 50-metre borehole, including installation of all necessary equipment. She paid R27,800 for the service.

However, the company failed to meet its contractual obligations. The borehole was not drilled to the agreed depth, and despite claims that the work had been completed, no water was found. The consumer was subsequently requested to incur additional costs amounting to R11,000 for casings, and a further R4,500 for a cylinder pump, without any resolution to the problem.

An independent assessment later revealed that the borehole



measured only 34 metres and had no water, contradicting the service provider's claims and pointing to conduct that falls short of acceptable business standards.

After unsuccessful attempts to resolve the matter directly with the supplier, Ms. Seithamo lodged a complaint with the Consumer Affairs Office. Due to a lack of cooperation from the company, the matter was escalated to the Consumer Affairs Court.

In February 2026, the Court

facilitated a settlement agreement compelling Francois Drilling (Pty) Ltd to drill a new borehole and install all required equipment at no additional cost to the consumer. The order was complied with, and by 5 March 2026, Ms. Seithamo confirmed that the new borehole is fully functional and yielding sufficient water.

The case underscores the enforcement of the Consumer Protection Act 68 of 2008, which prohibits misleading, unfair, and

deceptive conduct by suppliers.

Ms. Seithamo suffered financial loss and prolonged inconvenience, having spent approximately R38,800 and relying on water tankers for an extended period due to the supplier's failure to deliver on agreed services.

Speaking on the outcome, Director for Consumer Protection, Seile Letsogo, emphasised the Department's firm stance against non-compliant businesses:

"This case demonstrates that the Consumer Affairs Court is an effective platform for redress and enforcement. We urge businesses to comply with the law and treat consumers fairly. Where there is evidence of prohibited conduct, we will not hesitate to act decisively to protect consumers and ensure that justice is served."

The department has issued a stern warning to businesses operating within the province: non-compliance with consumer protection legislation and unethical business practices will not be tolerated. The Department will continue to pursue enforcement measures, including administrative penalties, against those who violate consumer rights.

Consumers are encouraged to report unfair treatment and seek assistance from the Consumer Affairs Office, which remains committed to ensuring accessible, efficient, and fair redress for all.

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NORTH WEST PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT HANDS OVER THE SECTION 59(4) REPORT TO THE BAHURUTSHE BA GA MOILOA

By Neo Modupe

North West Premier Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi handed over Section 59(4) of the Traditional Leadership and Governance Framework Act, 2019 findings report that confirmed that Kgosi Monnamere Moiloa is the rightful heir to occupy the chieftaincy seat of Bahurutshe Ba Ga Moiloa at a meeting in Dinokana village recently. This followed disputes over chieftainship succession that engulfed the royal family.

He was accompanied by the MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Gaoage Oageng Molapisi and the chairperson of the North West House of



Traditional and Khoisan Leaders, Kgosi Thari Maotwe. Premier Mokgosi said that the report was compiled based on the data collected during the research conducted by his office in

consultation with the royal family that found that "Monnamere" is the one who should lead the community. "According to the law as the Premier, I had to take the advice from the committee and royal

family and give the certificate of recognition to the Traditional Leader of this royal family", Premier Mokgosi said.

The newly appointed chief expressed elation over the research outcomes and appreciated the royal family the royal family for their active participation during the probe, promising that he will bring about a change to the community, especially the youth.

"I am happy about the results, and I thank the royal family for its confidence in me and I promise that I will bring positive changes to this community, and the number one priority is to establish initiatives that will empower the youth", he said.

Kgosi Maotwe assured him that the traditional house is there to support him as he starts his journey.

PREMIER MOKGOSI VISITS SEWEDING RESIDENTS TO ASSESS PROGRESS ON THE SEWAGE PROJECT

By Zintle Xaba

As part of his Post- State of the Province Address (SOPA) activities, North West Premier Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi recently visited Seweding residents and the contractor to assess progress on the sewage project in the area.

The Executive Mayor of the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality, Cllr Khumalo Molefe,

and Cllr Tshepiso Mphahlo of Mahikeng Local Municipality accompanied Premier Mokgosi.

During the recent SOPA, Premier Mokgosi apologized to the residents for the sewer spillages, attributing the delays to vandalism and criminal activities.

We have recently introduced a contractor in Seweding village in Mahikeng to deal with challenges of sewer spillages in the area. We take this opportunity to profusely apologize to our residents for this setback, which has been because

of various acts of vandalism and criminality", he said.

He declared this a provincial disaster and emphasized the need for the project to be completed urgently, as it affects community members negatively.

"I request the project manager to accelerate the progress of this project to be completed before the initial completion date, which is June, even if it means that it will have financial implications," he said.

Cllr Molefe expressed gratitude

to the Premier for allocating funds to the project, despite budget constraints.

"I would like to send my gratitude to the Premier for giving us an ear and funds to continue with this project," he said.

Speaking on behalf of the community, Gladys Dingaka said that she is hopeful that the project will be completed shortly.

"As the Premier came to visit us, we believe that our sewer spillage challenges would be resolved very soon", she said.

PREMIER MOKGOSI SAYS THAT TRADITIONAL LEADERSHIP MUST BE PART OF SERVICE DELIVERY



By Tshenolelo Zebediela

Addressing the official opening of the Northwest House of Traditional and Khoisan Leaders recently in Mahikeng, Premier Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi said that Magosi must be actively involved in the government's efforts to better the lives of the people, as they are the headships of the land, which is an enabler for economic activities to occur.

"As we provide services, the active participation of our traditional leadership is needed so that our development should be seam-

less.

It is a fact that our traditional leaders remain enablers of a socio-economic tragedy, particularly as custodians of the land, and I want to emphasize that point, that traditional leadership is an enabler of a socio-economic trajectory, particularly because they are custodians of the land", Premier Mokgosi said.

He said that the provincial government remains committed to strengthening its collaboration with the traditional leaders, recognizing them as essential custodians of governance, land, and socio-economic advancement.

"As a provincial government, we reaffirm our support in recognition of traditional leadership as a central

pillar of governance, land stewardship and socio-economic development", he said

He added that the provincial government is intentional in ensuring that traditional authorities move from being passive participants to main partners in growing the economy, investment, and development.

"We are deliberate on repositioning our traditional institutions from being peripheral stakeholders to become primary partners in economic transformation, investment, facilitation, and sustainable development.

He further said that he directed the Department of Economic Development, Environment,

Conservation, and Tourism to collaborate with the North West Development Corporation to assess the land that is under the traditional leadership to identify its economic potential.

"In advancing a broader rural economic agenda, DEDECT has been directed to work in partnership with NWDC to undertake a comprehensive assessment of land under traditional leadership. This process includes identifying opportunities in key sectors such as agriculture, mining, prospecting, tourism, and industrial development, while also engaging credible technical and financial institutions to determine the true economic value of such land", he said.

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IKAGENG SET FOR 1,075 NEW HOMES AS MEC CRACKS DOWN ON POOR CONTRACTORS INTRODUCTION



By Tebogo Serai

MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Gaoage Oageng Molapisi, delivered a stern warning against poor-performing developers during a community meeting recently and officially introduced three developers tasked to construct 1075 Breaking New Ground (BNG) units in Ikageng Extension 13.

The project, which is valued at over R230 million and set to break ground in April, promises to be a game-changer for the community, eradicating informal settlements by

replacing them with secure, decent homes by December 2027.

The three appointed contractors were introduced to the community by MEC Molapisi, who was accompanied by the acting Executive Mayor of JB Marks Local Municipality, Ishmael Moilwa, councillors, and officials from both the municipality and the department.

During the meeting, MEC Molapisi announced that the department will closely monitor their performance throughout the duration of the project. He emphasised that the department will not hesitate to terminate their contracts should they fail to meet the agreed completion timelines. He further advised them to enlist additional capacity where neces-

sary to ensure that the project is completed on schedule.

He indicated that the department has experienced challenges in the past with contractors who abandon projects or deliver poor-quality work. He said that, to address this challenge, the department has resolved to implement a strict milestone-based payment system, in which contractors are paid according to the work they have completed.

"If you fail to deliver, the department will be left with no option but to terminate the contract and appoint a new contractor to complete the job," he said. He also urged community members to cooperate with the contractors and ward councillors to prevent any disruptions that could delay the project.

"We have appointed three developers, two of whom are women and one man. This forms part of our deliberate effort to meet the 40% target for women-owned companies in government projects. By appointing women developers, we not only achieve the target but we also contribute towards the empowerment of women in the construction sector", he said. He further emphasised that residents of Ikageng must be prioritised for local job opportunities throughout the project.

He reaffirmed the department's commitment to prioritise vulnerable groups, including women, older persons, child-headed households, and persons with disabilities, when allocating houses to beneficiaries.

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MEC TLHAPI OFFICIALLY OPENS TSWELELANG COMMUNITY LIBRARY



By Edith Mogapi

The doors to Tsweleng Community Library were officially opened on Friday, March 13, just as the North West Department of Arts, Culture, Sports and Recreation (ACSR) was celebrating Provincial Human Rights month.

Continuing in the efforts to encourage a culture of reading and writing as a lasting legacy in the formerly disadvantaged communities, ACSR has given residents of Tsweleng in Wolmaranstad access to a newly-built state-of-the-art library with over 4000 books. More books will be added to the collection annually.

Situated at the heart of Tsweleng Township, just next to the N12 road, the community library is strategically placed to create easier access to the community of Tsweleng on both sides of the National Road.

The library will provide services to the entire community and the



seven schools that surround it.

Maquassi Hills Local Municipality has a total of five libraries built by ACSR, namely Wolmaranstad, Kgakala, Leeudoringstad, Makwassie, and Lebaleng Library.

Tsweleng Community Library is the sixth library established in the local municipality.

"To the community of Tsweleng, we are here to deliver on a commitment made during the

2025/26 departmental budget speech, to open this library before the financial year end," said ACSR MEC, Galerekwe Tsotso Tlhapi.

"This reflects the department's belief in the power of learning to transform lives and the enduring role of libraries in helping to shape self-sustainable communities," added. The 816m² building consists of an activity/study room, ideal for study purposes even when the main library is closed. It also has a

children's library with an outside play area; an audio-visual room for people with visual disabilities; a reference section; a separate computer area for public internet access, and a leisure area for juveniles.

The children's section furniture is designed to provide service that supports Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes and seeks to inculcate a culture of reading starting from a very young age.

Boineelo Primary School principal Ms Mantsopa Makhobotloane welcomed the library and acknowledged the impact it will have on learners and teachers alike.

"One of our high schools in the area received 100% pass rate in the past year, and we want other learners to be encouraged by that. If a child is unable to study at home for reasons beyond their control, then they will have a library to come to," she said.

"Our kids will never have to worry about assignments, homework, research, and job hunting because this library will serve as a haven for the entire community."

The building is fully air-conditioned and has sufficient windows for ventilation and natural light. There is also a provision for community members to plug and charge their own electronic portable gadgets in the library.

Library officials will be invited to participate in the annual book selection meetings to select library material that is suitable and needed by the community. Library officials are also allowed to submit special requests at any time if they do not have the item required by a user on their shelves. The new library received a donation of books from the North West University (NWU) Library and Information Services.

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NORTH WEST CONSUMER AFFAIRS COURT ORDERS REFUND FOLLOWING SUPPLIER'S FAILURE TO DELIVER

By Mpumi Mashike & Baabua Thukubi

The North West Provincial Consumer Affairs Court has ordered a vehicle dealership to refund a Stilfontein resident more than R220,000 after selling her a defective car, in a ruling that reinforces consumer protection and accountability in the province.

The case, handled by the North West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism (DEDECT) through its Consumer Affairs Office, highlights the Department's ongoing efforts to ensure that consumers receive fair treatment and access to redress.

Paballo Matsietsa purchased a 2013 Volkswagen Polo GTI 1.4 TSI DSG from Agenbag Motor GRP CC on 21 April 2023 for R237, 186.49. However, her excitement was short-lived when, on the same day, the vehicle displayed an airbag error while she was driving home.

The defect was immediately reported, and the vehicle was returned to the dealership for repairs just days later. Although the dealership claimed to have fixed the issue, the vehicle continued to experience recurring defects, forcing her to repeatedly return it for further attention.

What initially appeared to be a minor fault soon turned into a prolonged ordeal.

After exhausting all efforts to resolve the matter directly with the dealership, Matsietsa approached the Provincial Consumer Affairs Office for assistance, citing a violation of her right to receive goods that are safe, of good quality, and free from defects.

Following an investigation and



unsuccessful mediation, the matter was escalated to the Consumer Affairs Court for adjudication.

During the proceedings, evidence presented by the Department revealed that the vehicle had previously been involved in a major accident in 2016 and had been written off, information that had not been disclosed at the time of sale. An expert report from the Motor Industry Ombudsman of South Africa further supported the complainant's case, confirming the extent of the vehicle's defects.

In delivering the judgment, Chairperson of the North West Provincial Consumer Affairs Court, Kennedy Kgomongwe, ruled in favour of Matsietsa, stating that the dealership had failed to meet its obligations despite being given multiple opportunities to remedy

the defects.

The Court found that the vehicle did not meet the standards set out in the Consumer Protection Act 68 of 2008, particularly Section 55, which guarantees consumers the right to receive goods that are of good quality, in good working order, and free from defects.

As a result, the Court ordered the cancellation of the sales agreement and directed the dealership to refund Ms. Matsietsa an amount of R220,186.49, after accounting for usage costs. The complainant was instructed to return the vehicle, with the dealership responsible for collection at its own cost.

In his remarks, Kgomongwe emphasised the importance of the Act in safeguarding consumers:

"The Consumer Protection Act was promulgated to protect the fundamental rights of consumers

and to regulate interactions between consumers and suppliers. It provides measures to eliminate unethical business practices and protect consumers, particularly the most vulnerable, from unscrupulous suppliers."

Overcome with relief, Matsietsa expressed her gratitude to the Consumer Affairs Office for its intervention and encouraged other consumers to seek assistance when their rights are violated.

DEDECT has reiterated its commitment to protecting consumers and ensuring that businesses operate within the bounds of the law, warning that unfair and deceptive practices will not be tolerated.

The Department continues to urge residents to report any unfair treatment and make use of the Consumer Affairs Office to enforce their rights.

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MEC SAMBATHA SETS THE PACE IN NORTH WEST'S BATTLE AGAINST FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

By Thebe Itumeleng

With sleeves rolled up and vaccine in hand, MEC Madoda Sambatha showed that the fight against Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) is about action, not just words. At Potchefstroom College of Agriculture, he personally launched the vaccination drive, sending a clear signal that the government is determined to protect livestock and the livelihoods that depend on them.

The campaign started immediately after the arrival of 100,000 doses of Biogenesis Bago FMD Virus Vaccines. Veterinary teams are already on the ground across the province. They are focusing on the hardest hit municipalities while making sure smaller villages and communal farmers are not left behind.

FMD has spread to all municipalities in the province, with 158 confirmed cases. To stop further transmission, veterinary teams are combining vaccination with daily outreach, farmer information sessions, and biosecurity awareness campaigns. Areas near buffalo populations, which are natural carriers of the virus, are receiving special attention. Precautionary quarantine farms are also being closely monitored.

Sambatha stressed fairness in distribution. "While priority will be given to the most affected areas, no farmer or village will be left behind. Communal villages, where livestock movement and limited biosecurity measures increase risk, will be a critical focus to build herd immunity and cut off transmission pathways," he said.

His appeal to farmers was direct. Report early and do not hide cases. "This sickness does not move on its own. It is moved by us



when we move animals without care. That means we also have the power to stop it. By reporting quickly and working together, we can protect our cattle, our villages, and our livelihoods."

Farmers are urged to contact their nearest veterinary clinic or extension officer at the first sign of

symptoms. Early reporting, combined with vaccination, gives the province its best chance of contain-

ing the outbreak. More consignments of vaccines are expected in the coming weeks. This will expand coverage and strengthen herd immunity. For farmers, this means hope. It means protection for their herds, stability for their communities, and a path forward for the agricultural economy.

IF YOU SUSPECT FMD:

- Do NOT move the animals
- Immediately report to your nearest Veterinary Office
- Limit movement of people, animals, and vehicles on your farm

SIGNS TO WATCH OUT FOR:

- Drooling or excessive saliva
- Blisters in the mouth or on the feet
- Limping or reluctance to move
- Sudden drop in milk production
- Fever and loss of appetite



FMD

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE
AWARENESS



STATE VETERINARY SERVICES

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE UPDATE

WEEKLY REPORT: 27 MARCH 2026

210 - CONFIRMED INFECTIONS

129 808 - ANIMALS VACCINATED OUT OF 150 000 DOSES ADMINISTERED

Farmers are encouraged to promptly report suspected cases

Veterinary Public Health - Abattoirs

Dr Kgatswetswe: 066 141 6329 or Lkgatswetswe@nwpg.gov.za

CAHT - Veterinary Technical Support

Ms Ngazire: 066 141 6901 or Bietjie@nwpg.gov.za

Provincial Veterinary Services

Dr Langa Madyibi: 066 190 9190 or LMadyibi@nwpg.gov.za

VACCINATION CAMPAIGN ARE ONGOING TO CONTROL AND PREVENT FURTHER SPREAD OF THE FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.



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NORTH WEST ADVANCES CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY THROUGH INCLUSIVE PROVINCIAL ENGAGEMENT

By Seloane Seleka

The North West Province has taken a significant step towards strengthening its response to climate change following the successful conclusion of a Provincial Climate Change Workshop convened recently by the North West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism (DEDECT).

The workshop brought together a broad range of stakeholders, including government, academia, traditional leadership, private-sector partners, civil society, and environmental experts, to provide input on the draft Climate Change Strategy and Implementation Plan (CCSIP). The plan is set to serve as the province's guiding framework for coordinated climate action, resilience building, and sustainable development.

Addressing stakeholders, MEC for Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism, Bitsa Lenkopane, underscored the urgency of a collective and coordinated response to the growing climate crisis.

"The North West Province is not immune to the threats posed by climate change. We are already witnessing its impact on our wetlands, agricultural productivity, biodiversity, infrastructure, and the resilience of our communities. Our response must be deliberate and systematic, and the Climate Change Strategy will guide us in safeguarding our environment, protecting livelihoods, and securing a sustainable future," said MEC Lenkopane.

The initiative forms part of the province's response to the Climate Change Act 2024, which mandates that provinces develop implementation plans to mitigate risks and



province. MEC Lenkopane described the workshop as a defining milestone in shaping the province's environmental future.

"Let us seize this moment not as a burden, but as an opportunity to reimagine our economy, safeguard our environment, protect our people, and uphold our responsibility to future generations.

With unity, collaboration, and commitment, we will rise to the challenge", she said.

The draft Climate Change Strategy and Implementation Plan remains open for public comment,



adapt to the socio-economic impacts of climate change.

Deliberations during the workshop focused on key priority areas, including climate risk and vulnerability assessments, climate-smart agriculture, water security, tourism sustainability, and strengthening municipal responses to climate-related challenges. A presentation by the South African Local Government Association high-

lighted the critical role municipalities play as frontline responders in addressing the effects of climate change at the community level.

The strong participation and contributions from key partners, including North West University, environmental specialists, private sector stakeholders, and community organisations, reflected a shared commitment to building a climate-resilient and sustainable

with stakeholders and members of the public encouraged to submit their inputs through the official platform.

The department has welcomed the outcome of the workshop as a critical step towards finalising a credible, inclusive, and actionable framework that will guide the province's response to climate change and support long-term environmental sustainability.

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NORTH WEST IRRIGATION SYMPOSIUM SPURS FARMER-LED SOLUTIONS AND SPARKS NEW IDEAS FOR CHANGE

By Thebe Itumeleng

The North West Department of Agriculture and Rural Development successfully convened a two-day Symposium on Irrigation at Taung Agricultural College in the Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality recently.

The symposium brought together the farmers, researchers, institutions of higher learning, private organizations, financial institutions, policy makers, traditional leadership, local government leadership, and technical experts to deliberate on sustainable solutions for irrigated agriculture.

Farmer voices were central to the discussions. They expressed appreciation for the government's initiative and welcomed the renewed commitment to resuscitate irrigation projects across the province. Noah Nkwe, a farmer who depends on irrigation for his crops from Taung, spoke about the importance of the gathering.

"I believe that the summit is the start of resolving the challenges we have been having as farmers, depending on irrigation. For a long time, we have struggled with old infrastructure, high water and electricity bills, and limited access to markets. We appreciate the government's outlined interventions and hope to see projects resuscitated to operate at maximum capacity. If these plans are carried through, farmers like myself will be able to expand production, create jobs, and contribute more to food security in the province", he said.

Mosidi Morule, a farmer from Ramatlabama in Ngaka Modiri



Molema District, added her voice to the call for broader collaboration.

"In the next gathering, all other important stakeholders must be invited. Eskom and other government departments must be part of such discussions so that solutions are comprehensive and inclusive. Farmers cannot succeed in isolation. We need energy providers, water authorities, and financial institutions at the table. Only then can we address the full spectrum of challenges we face", she said.

The symposium concluded with a clear programme of action aimed at revitalising and strengthening

irrigation schemes across the province. Priority will be given to deepening collaborations while fostering integrated planning under the District Development Model with farmers' organisations, private investors, institutions of higher learning, and financial institutions.

Speaking during the symposium, MEC Madoda reaffirmed the government's commitment and gave assurance to farmers.

"We have called you here so that we can come up with joint solutions to ensure that irrigation schemes are revitalised. This gathering is not just about talking; it is about action.

We want to make sure that all these irrigation schemes are working, productive, and able to sustain our farmers and communities for years to come. Our vision is to see farmers fully participate in the agricultural value chain, with strong linkages to markets and practical, lasting support systems. The government will work side by side with farmers, cooperatives, private organisations, financial institutions, and institutions of higher learning. Together, we will strengthen irrigation schemes so they can deliver results", he said.

The symposium made it clear that the future of irrigation in the province rests on practical solutions. Delegates agreed that for these ideas to succeed, farmers must be backed by targeted financial support and stronger institutions, ensuring that irrigation schemes are not only revitalised but kept working for the long term.

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CDW-LED INITIATIVE BRINGS HOPE TO BONA BONA FAMILIES

By Masego Tiro

In Ward 09 of Kagisano-Molopo Local Municipality, the Bona Bona Come Together Movement continues to bring relief and hope to vulnerable households through a coordinated, community-driven approach facilitated by Community Development Worker (CDW) Juckey Sekgweleo.

Established by local church leaders, the faith-based initiative responds to ongoing challenges of unemployment and food insecurity in Bona Bona village by providing annual food parcels and essential support to indigent families.

In this village, change does not begin in boardrooms; it begins on dusty roads, through door-to-door visits, guided by a CDW who understands the community he serves.

As part of his core responsibilities, the CDW plays a central role in identifying beneficiaries through household visits and ongoing community engagement.

“My role in the Come Together Movement is to identify indigent households through door-to-door visits. This helps me understand the real living conditions of families in the community”, Sekgweleo said.

Sekgweleo explained that his motivation to support the initiative comes from witnessing daily hardship in the village.

“It is heart-touching to see people struggling to access necessities like food, especially in a community where employment opportunities are limited, and most households rely on social grants”, he said.

He added that beneficiary identification is conducted with care and respect to ensure fairness



and dignity.

“I interview households politely by asking about household size, income, and access to social grants, while also assessing their overall living conditions”, he explained.

The success of the initiative is strengthened through partnerships with local businesses and faith-based organisations. Unissen Broers Superstore and Filling

Station provided food parcels and financial support, while Lukuru Farming contributed funding and meat.

The Full Gospel Church in Bona Bona hosted the event and offered additional logistical support.

Despite its positive impact, the CDW highlighted key challenges: “the biggest challenge is identifying the right recipients because the need is high, yet food parcels are

limited, and they are also a short-term solution, which is why addressing the root causes of poverty remains essential”, he noted.

Beyond meeting immediate food needs, the initiative promotes social cohesion, unity, and shared responsibility.

Through ongoing monitoring and reporting, the CDW ensures accountability and helps measure the impact of the intervention.

The Bona Bona Come Together Movement demonstrates the critical role of Community Development Workers as a bridge between government, communities, and partners, contributing meaningfully to improved liveli-

hoods and resilient communities in Kagisano-Molopo Local Municipality.

As the final food parcel is handed over and community members gather in gratitude, one message stands out: when government, faith-based organisations, businesses, and communities work together, hope becomes more than a promise; it becomes reality.



UNDERSTANDING THE PGDS: A ROADMAP FOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE

What is PGDS

The Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (PGDS) serves as a blueprint to guide planning and the development trajectory of the North West Province. The PGDS seeks to build an economy that can restore and boost investor confidence, accelerate growth, and create jobs, in line with the objectives of the National Development Plan and the Medium Term Development Plan.

It aligns policies, programmes and resources towards a common vision of sustainable development, ensuring that all efforts are coordinated, impactful and responsive to the needs of our people.

The Executive Council (EXCO) approved the Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (PGDS) in May 2025, and the PGDS Implementation Plan in November 2025.

What are the key focus areas across the PGDS Chapters

The Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (PGDS) is structured into 14 chapters, with each focusing on a critical area of development, highlighting sector-specific challenges and proposing targeted interventions to address them. These chapters outline a comprehensive plan to transform the province and improve the lives of its communities. The chapters focus on Social Economic Infrastructure, Integrated and Inclusive Rural Economy Development, Human Settlement and Spatial Transformation, Improving Education, Training, Innovation and Health, as well as Implementation, Communication and Monitoring amongst others.

How will the PGDS be implemented

The PGDS will be implemented through sector-based Working Groups (WGs), structured around the key economic sectors of the North West Province.

These Working Groups will create a platform for collaboration and partnership among Provincial Government Departments, State-Owned Entities, Municipalities and the private sector in driving implementation.

The Six Working Groups that will coordinate the planning and monitoring of implementation of the PGDS are as follows:-

Working Group	Lead Department
1. Agriculture	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
2. Tourism	Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism
3. Industrialisation	Office of the Premier - (Economic and Investment Advisory Council)
4. Human Settlements and Spatial Transformation	Department of Cooperative Government, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs
5. Education	Department of Education
6. Health	Department of Health

What are the main PGDS Implementation Priorities by District

The implementation of this strategy will be driven at the provincial level through the District Development Model, with Bojanala Platinum District identified to drive the economy through mineral beneficiation, industrialisation and tourism.

The revitalisation of mining towns particularly in Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District, will find expression through agro-processing hubs, innovation and skills development linked to digital economy opportunities.

For Ngaka Modiri Molema and Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti Districts, the priorities will include agricultural expansion and rural development, cross-border trade opportunities, and infrastructure development to unlock economic corridors.

How will the PGDS implementation plan be monitored

The Office of the Premier will be responsible for constituting the Working Groups and monitoring the Terms of Reference of each Working Group.

This will be done through the EXCO Committees and Inter-Governmental structures such as North West Premier's Coordinating Council to consider progress reports on PGDS implementation, provide strategic guidance, and intervene where necessary.

A message from the Premier of the North West Province - Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi

"The Provincial Growth and Development Strategy represents our collective commitment to building a capable, inclusive and prosperous province. It is a call to action for government, business, and communities to work together in unlocking opportunities and addressing the challenges that confront us.

Through the PGDS, the North West Province commits to a transformative economic development agenda that will leverage investments in technology and human capital.

The Office of the Premier will be seized with the responsibility of coordinating the implementation of the PGDS to ensure that all our intended objectives yield desired outcomes.

To achieve this, we will strengthen the implementation plan through District-based delivery models, public-private partnerships, clear performance targets across all departments and municipalities, as well as quarterly public reporting and accountability".

The PGDS is more than a policy; it is a shared vision for the future.

Building a North West Province that Works For All.



North West
Provincial Government



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FROM LECTURE HALLS TO FARMLANDS, A NEW GENERATION OF AGRICULTURAL LEADERS IS PREPARED TO DRIVE INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY ACROSS THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE

By Thebe Itumeleng

A new generation of agricultural trailblazers has stepped into the spotlight as Potchefstroom College of Agriculture proudly celebrated the graduation of 68 students. The ceremony, held recently, was more than a formal occasion; it was a powerful reminder of the role of education in shaping the future of food security and rural development in the North West Province. For the graduates, it marked the culmination of years of dedication, sacrifice, and hard work, while for the broader community, it symbolized hope and progress.

The atmosphere was filled with pride as the college management commended the graduates for their resilience. Their achievements were described as both personal triumphs and collective progress for the agricultural sector, a field that continues to demand innovation and commitment amid modern challenges.

Among the graduates, Loatile Lefa Makhetha stood out as the overall top performer of the Class of 2025. Reflecting on his journey, Makhetha explained that his success was rooted in disciplined study habits, active participation in lectures, and collaborative learning with peers. He emphasized the invaluable role of the College's lecturers, who not only imparted knowledge but also instilled values of perseverance, integrity, and innovation.

"I want to thank the academic staff of the Potchefstroom College of Agriculture. They have done their best to prepare us for the world out there," he said.

The ceremony also featured an



address by MEC Madoda Sambatha, who congratulated the graduates, academic staff, and farming community for their collective efforts. He highlighted the importance of practical training, noting that farmers who opened their farms for student learning played a crucial role in bridging the gap between theory and practice.

"Practical exposure is the backbone of agricultural education. When theory meets practice, we produce competent, confident, and industry-ready graduates. Government cannot do it alone; partnerships with farmers, unions, industry bodies, and communities are essential to building a North West Province that works for all,"

Sambatha remarked. He encouraged the graduates to embrace the opportunities ahead, reminding them that the future of agriculture now rests in their hands.

Both Taung and Potchefstroom Colleges of Agriculture continue to stand as pillars of agricultural education, equipping students with the technical expertise and personal skills required to drive growth in the sector. Their mission is clear: to contribute to the expansion and sustainability of farming by preparing graduates who are ready to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving industry.

Applications for the 2027 intake are now officially open and will close at the end of October 2026. Prospective students are invited to apply to either Taung College of Agriculture or Potchefstroom College of Agriculture. This intake represents an opportunity for aspiring agricultural professionals to pursue rigorous academic training combined with practical experience, preparing them to contribute meaningfully to the growth and sustainability of the agricultural sector.



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CIRCULAR 44 OF 2026

STUDENT NURSE TRAINING FOR 2026

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED TO NORTH WEST COLLEGE OF NURSING

FOURTH INTAKE OF NURSES SINCE NEW CURRICULUM

NAME OF PROGRAMME: DIPLOMA IN NURSING (GENERAL)	R171 OF 8 MARCH 2013
DURATION: THREE (3) YEARS	NQF LEVEL 6
TOTAL CREDITS: 364	364
MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION: ENGLISH	ENGLISH

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Senior Certificate with endorsement (Matric exemption) - Bachelors Degree Pass.

Minimum Requirements for Compulsory Subjects

English	HG E or Level 5
Biology/Life Sciences	HG E or Level 5
Mathematics	Level 5

The applicant must be a South African citizen.

TRAINING

The three-year Diploma Programme is presented by the North West College of Nursing at its four (2) campuses.

TRAINING

The three-year Diploma Programme is presented by the North West College of Nursing at two (2) campuses: Klerksburg and Mmabatho.

Upon completion of the course, students will obtain a Diploma in Nursing, qualifying them to register as Professional Nurse, General Nurse is.

ENQUIRIES

081 899 1022

Dr. Albert Luthuli Rd,
Mmabatho-Nurses College,
Mmabatho, 2790

✉ nw.nursingcollege@outlook.com

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PROVINCIAL THEATRE WEEK A SUCCESS

By *Thato Motau*

A week-long Provincial Theatre Week, proudly hosted by the Department of Arts, Culture, Sports and Recreation (ACSR) and Mmabana Arts, Culture and Sports Foundation (MACSF), has been hailed a remarkable success.

The resoundingly successful Provincial Theatre Week took place at Mmabana Mahikeng Theatre from March 2 - 6, to bring theatre back to life and claim its place under the sun.

It was a showcase of the finest theatre talent with performances ranging from contemporary works to traditional storytelling. Featured were productions that kept the audience on their feet. The productions were *Sober* from Bojanala District, *Selelo* from Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District, *Unbreakable Spirits* from Ngaka Modiri Molema District, *The Father- Ubaba*, *The Suit*, and *The Dress* from Dr Kenneth Kaunda District.

ACSR Director for Arts and Culture, Noluyolo Zahela, pronounced the Provincial Theatre Week a success

"The Provincial Theatre Week has affirmed our commitment to supporting the arts as a cornerstone of development in the North West Province," she said.

"The festival was not only about entertainment but also served to strengthen networks among theatre professionals, artists, and audiences. The diversity of productions ranged from upcoming entertainers to semi-professionals and professionals. This was to ensure that upcoming artists received an opportunity to learn from the more established ones."

Zahela encouraged all local productions to keep in contact with ACSR. "We intend to make the



Provincial Theatre Week an annual programme. It is therefore impor-

tant that artists at the local level update their ACSR local offices on

their productions and be on the database."

Theatre multi-award winner and one of the first students produced by MACSF, Johnny Loate, came to support fellow artists. "I came to support theatre as I have over 40 years in the industry. We are happy that ACSR is bringing theatre back to the stage", Loate said.

"I am giving back to my community through teaching theatre in schools. This is to ensure that we nurture the craft from an early age."

Fifteen-year-old theatre performer Molebogeng Molosankwe from Lomanyaneng in Mahikeng thanked ACSR for the opportunity. "Performing at platforms such as the Provincial Theatre Week is an honour as it boosts our profile as upcoming artists.

"I have been in the arts for the past five years and have won awards outside the province together with my production house Ethnocentric."

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Congratulations

to the

NORTH WEST PROVINCE

**FOR BEING CROWNED AS THE TOP PROVINCE
IN THE 2026 SASA II CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The North West Province was crowned as the best province during the 2026 South African Sports Association for the Intellectually Impaired (SASA-II) Championships held on 23rd - 27th March 2026, at White River and Mbombela in Mpumalanga Province.



education

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