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OEM Introduces Deputer Manager Communications



Mr Witness Tiva

After 10 years of journalism work with the SABC, Witness Tiva (pictured) joins Mopani District as a Deputy Manager Communications. Tiva assumed duty on Monday 2nd July 2018 and was welcomed well in a staff meeting held in the Executive Mayor's Boardroom. Tiva is joining the Communication Unit just when it was setting off to be part of the Provincial Communicators Forum to be held in Greater Tubatse Fetakgomo Municipality, Burgersfort in Sekhukhune District.

Witness joined the SABC in 2008 as a news reporter and was responsible for writing stories for all the SABC radio stations, through the hourly bulletins and packages for current affairs. He also contributed immensely to the TV News desk. During the radio interview on Friday at the farewell function, Tiva expressed his gratitude to SABC, which he used to call it his second home after spending 10 years of his work life with great people like Rudzani Bologo, Mashudu Mabushe, Costner Mthombeni and Sam Motshitshila among others. The Executive Mayor warmly welcomed Mr. Witness Tiva and expressed Her good wishes and hoping that he (Tiva) will add more value to the institution and to the Communication components of the District.



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District LED Forum



Planning and Development unit held the District LED Forum meeting on 27th June 2018 at Disaster Management Centre in Tzaneen. Various stakeholders ranging from sector departments, Government Agencies, private sector, politicians responsible for Planning & Development portfolios and local Municipalities HOD's & their subordinates as well as chairpersons of the four key thrusts of the MDM LED Strategy thus; Mining, Tourism, Trade & Manufacturing and Agriculture participated in the forum.

The LED Forum is established through the Coghsta guideline's to play a key role in integrating the state actions, combining government and off-budget resources, and energizing innovation for the facilitation of Local Economic Development in Municipalities.

The LED Forum converged to consolidate and align stakeholder inputs with the approved IDP budget for 2018/19 financial year. The forum broke into four commissions namely; Mining, Agriculture, Trade & Manufacturing and Tourism.

All commissions successfully engaged and agreed to implement amongst others;

- The resolutions of the Economic summit in line with the approved budget
- Develop the marketing plan in line with the approved budgeted projects
- Align flow of engagement with local and District Forum
- That a similar engagement be held around February 2019 before budget approval
- All chairpersons had committed to engage local Municipalities on their respective sectors





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WATER PROJECTS LAUNCHED. WATER CHALLENGES SOLVED IN MANY COMMUNITIES.



The Executive Mayor of Mopani District, recently dispersed all Members of Mayoral Committee to various communities, launching water projects funded through WSIG (Water Services Infrastructure Grant). The launching of the project, which practically means handing over the Contractor and the Consulting Engineer to community stakeholders, saw about twelve (12) projects being handed over between the month of May and June 2018. The water projects include among others, communities of Namakgale, Iulekani, Mapikiri, Mets, Hlaneki, Mageva, Daniel, Dzingidzingi, Mapuve, Zava, Mabepelong, Hoedspruit, lenyenye and other areas. Many of the projects as mentioned, are to focus on



water reticulation, sanitation and upgrading of sewer system which have a duration not later than six months. In her words during the budget speech, the Executive Mayor emphasised that challenges of water in Mopani District will soon be the thing of the past. There are plans to quickly finalise the Runnymede cluster water challenges in Greater Tzaneen, a programme which started earlier this year, as well as the Relela cluster which is commonly known as Bolobedu South. Also in the areas of Greater Giyani, the Minister of Water Affairs tabled a good plan in Parliament on the 22nd May 2018, during the budget vote for the Department of Water and Sanitation, to ensure reticulation all villages of Greater Giyani is urgently completed. This follows his visit to Giyani on the 12th May 2018 when he was conducting oversight visit in Giyani, over a water project commonly known as Khato Civils.



DISTRICT DISABILITY DEVELOPMENT FORUM RE-LAUNCHED



Mopani District Municipality have re-launched the District Disability Development FORUM during the District Disability Indaba social cohesion on the 28th-29th June 2018 and was held under the theme: “Radical Change towards Coordinating Services to Persons with disabilities” as well as popular Slogan: “Nothing About Us Without Us -Thuma Mina”. And these theme and the slogan are designed to encourage people with disabilities to change their focus and increase participation in to development within the communities from the ward levels.

The Disability Indaba Social Cohesion was facilitated by the portfolio committee chairperson Cllr. Moroatshehla Flora and it received a warm key note address from the Acting Executive Mayor MMC Cllr. SonoA.

The main objectives of the district disability indaba social cohesion was to review the district disability forum which is now called District Disability Development Forum as well as to establish a structure of business for persons with disabilities called Limpopo People with disabilities in business (LIPEDIB).

The main role of this Disability Development Forum is to represent the needs and interests of persons with disabilities through the formation of the development forum at district and local municipalities which is a civil society stakeholder representing persons with disabilities. The main focus of the structure is to advocate for fulfillment of the integration of Services to persons with disabilities, by the office of the Executive Mayor in the implementation of the Municipal IDP through the annual SDBIP. And that is done by initiating Disability Projects, as well as implementing the SDBIP on Disability Programs and it previously played a significant role in advocating for self-representation of persons with disabilities on issues which affect their lives at key structures such as IDP Rep Forums, Ward Committees, HIV/AIDS Councils and Youth Councils. One of the key issues discussed was to strengthen this self-representation to be more effective in terms of receiving feedback down to the wards levels.

The deliberations also focused at empowering persons with disabilities to understand social cohesion which is a session presented by Meshack Ramalepe who is a disability activist and also a Lawyer by profession as the way of encouraging them to be more integrated within the mainstream society and be to able to strive for equity on all developmental activities in the community. And it also reflected more on the role of persons with disabilities to be more visible and active in all developmental activities at ward levels.



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In her Keynote address, Cllr. MMC Sono also showed the support of the district municipality to the re-launched structure which is represented as follows

Jonas Mathebula (Deputy Chairperson)
Service Advocacy Leader (Civil Society Rep).

Greater Tzaneen.

Jonas Mathebula
Daglous Mathonsi
Write Khosa
Anna Raburabu
Nicor Nhlungwana

Maruleng.

Collins Sebatana
Julia Mashaba
Maggie Nyathi
Petronela Sekgobela
Mangedi Kgohloane

Baphalaborwa.

Timothy Mkansi
Given Phiri
Mahlatse Thubakgale
Dominique Mokgalabone.
Queen Mashaba

Greater Giyani

Rhulani Nkuna
Lazarus Nhlavangwana
Bongani Baloyi
Sydney Nobela
Magreth Nghunyule
Greater Letaba
Phetole Mushole
Golden Kgokane
Margreth Ramathatha
Samuel Ngoveni
Mildred Lekganyane



The indaba also focused on empowering persons with disabilities on business issues whereby the provincial Treasury conducted a session to empower delegates with the understanding of tendering in line with the CSD, and LIEDA also facilitated a session on how to register a business whereby the outcomes was that further outreach sessions will be conducted throughout the local municipalities to continuously empower person with disabilities to register businesses and be able to comply in running their businesses.

The interim business structure for persons with disabilities was also formally established through facilitation by the Provincial Disability Rights Coordinating Unit in the Office of the Premiers. The structure is called Limpopo People with Disabilities in Business (LIPEDIB) in the district and the Acting Executive Mayor also formally launched the interim structure which consist of interim members who comes from local municipalities as follows:

Greater Tzaneen

Katlego Makwela
Wandy Mhangwana
Edward Shikwambana

Ba Phalaborwa.

Simon Malatji
Noita Malatji
Queen Mabasa

Greater Giyani

Rhulani Nkuna
Sidney Nobela
Lazarus Hlavangwana

Greater Letaba

Margreth Ramathatha
Phetole Mushole
Lazarus Mamabolo

Maruleng

Mokgatla Sello
Collisn Sebatane
Mashaba Julias

The LIPEDIB is already launched at the provincial level and Mopani is represented by Berzil Makhubele from Greater Giyani as a provincial treasurer, Magreth Ramathatha and Walter Muchavi from Greater Letaba

This was a very successful Disability indaba organized by the office of the Executive Mayor.