



Executive Mayor Wishes Team Mopani well at SAIMSA games

The Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Nkakareng Rakgoale has wished Team Mopani well ahead of their departure for the 2018 Southern Africa Inter-Municipal Sports Association (SAIMSA) to be held in Swaziland.

The 76 participants will depart in the early hours of Saturday, 22nd of September 2018, as they will be part of the official opening ceremony to start in the evening on the same day. The week long activities will be kick started by a soccer opening match between Swaziland and the Eastern Cape's Buffalo City.

Rakgoale says participating in sport activities contribute immensely to the employees' wellness, and also improves mental health which is good for productivity in the workplace. "We have in 2016, said that part of our programme of action would be to encourage our communities to participate in regular physical activities to prevent non-communicable or lifestyle diseases including obesity, cholesterol and diabetes. We are happy that as employees you are making an effort to look after your health.

"We are wishing you well in the games, as it goes without saying that you are our ambassadors and we expect you to maintain the highest standards of professional ethics. Go tell the world that as Mopani we are the food basket of Southern Africa and the tourism destination of choice."

The Deputy Manager for Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture Quincy Letsoalo, says the 76 participants are determined to go and fly the institution's vey flag high. "We have four sporting codes, football, netball, volleyball and road running (Marathon). We had wanted more sporting codes to be part of the games, but we are unable to send a bigger delegation due to budgetary constraints."

Letsoalo says the netball team is expected to perform exceptionally well as players are determined to bring some silverwares back home. "The netball team train more than the other teams. They organize games over weekends, and their level of performance is very high. Some of the team members even participate in the community teams. They did well at the provincial games held in Maruleng, where they were unfortunate to lose in the semi-finals," she said.



Ten questions with Quincy Letsoalo

Deputy Manager: Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture



She has served in many sport committees at local, district and provincial level, and she has been recently elected to the SAFA Women in Football's National Executive Committee. We ask her the ten questions:

1. Where were you born and what do you remember about your childhood?

I was born at Namakgale in Ba-Phabowarwa Municipality. I always had authority from an early age. I have been chairperson in all the committees that I have served in at church, starting from Sunday school.

2. How would you describe yourself in less than four words?

Straight talker, hard worker



inside Mopani

*To be the food basket of Southern Africa
and the tourism destination of Choice*

Issue no 3 of September 18

3. If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

Not to argue

4. Who are the people inspiring you the most in life?

Women like Ria Ledwaba (the Vice President of SAFA), because when they want a thing they go out to make it happen.

5. How long have you been with the Mopani District Municipality and what has been your biggest achievement thus far?

This is my eleventh year. In 2014, I got the award for being the best sport administrator in the province.

6. What motivates you the most about your work

I like networking and my work is about that. If you go to KZN and ask sport people there, especially school sport – they will tell you they know me. I have an understanding boss, and that is why I am able to achieve most of my things. He always motivates me.

7. What drew you into sports, and in particular sports administration?

I was a sports person from a young age. I played football and softball at high school level. I had a lot of injuries while playing football, but because I had told myself that I won't leave sport, I enrolled for sport management and sport administration.

8. If you could be any animal in the world, which one would you be, and why?

I love dogs. When a dog is there, I feel secured. I take care of it, feed it and even bath it.

9. What advice do you have for young females who want to venture into sports administration and leadership?

Stick to your rules. A person needs to read more and more, because sport is a male-dominated field. Empower yourself with more information about sport, so that when you are seated with those men around the table, you will be able to advance correct information.

10. What is your daily diet, and which restaurant do you like the most?

Vegetable, especially spinach. Now that I am here in Giyani, I usually go to Nandos.

MDM HOLDS A WATER SUMMIT TO BOOST ITS EFFORTS OF PROVIDING COMMUNITIES WITH WATER



The Mopani District Municipality Executive Mayor, Councillor Nkakareng Rakgoale has urged delegates who were attending the 2018 District Water Summit to mobilize communities who are receiving consistent water supply to start paying for the water they are utilising.

Delivering her opening address of the Water Summit held at the Karibu Leisure Resort on the 14th of September 2018, the Executive Mayor, told the delegates that public servants, who include nurses and teachers residing in the rural areas must pay for the uninterrupted supply of water to their homes.

"The mayor of Ba-Phalaborwa is residing at Mashishimale and he has requested the municipality to install a water meter in his yard, and he said 'because I'm now receiving consistent supply of water - I need to lead from the front and start paying.' We are saying all the other mayors and councillors must emulate the posture by the mayor of Ba-Phalaborwa and start paying in areas where they are residing." Rakgoale also said communities need to care for water infrastructure. "In many instances we have managed to put in place water infrastructure, but theft, vandalism and illegal connections are hampering our efforts of providing our communities with water.

"Illegal connections are adding strains to our already ageing water infrastructure, and as a result we are losing lots of clean, potable water due to leakages. We are therefore calling on our communities to work hand in hand with the police and local authorities to ensure that we clamp down on illegal connections and theft of our equipment," she said.

The executive mayor said the municipality may consider water restrictions in certain areas due to low dam levels, saying "The levels of our dams are low, and our failure to manage our water resources might result in our taps completely running dry soon. We are already considering water restrictions in places like Thapane, Middle-Letaba and Modjadji where the dams are below 13%, hence it becomes important for us to join hands and mobilize our people to start using water sparingly."

The municipality is recording improved spending on both the Municipal Infrastructure Grant as well as the Water Service Infrastructure Grant, and the executive mayor attributes this to district's efforts of building an institutional capacity by ensuring senior positions are filled with competent people in line with the back to basic approach.

Delegates to the summit have urged the district municipality to introduce a Call Centre which will assist in tracing calls logged and improve the turnaround time for responding to cases of water challenges.