



STAKEHOLDER BRANCH PREPARING FOR THE NEW FINANCIAL YEAR



The Stakeholder Coordination Branch of the Office of the Premier recently held an engagement with stakeholders in King Cetshwayo District. Yolanda Mahlamvu had a chat with Bathabile Mzoneli, the Director: Strategic Partnerships Unit.

Your Unit Recently held a Stakeholder meeting can you kindly respond to the following questions.

1. What was the Objective behind it?

- KZN government through the Office of the Premier has in the main been developing and refining the three critical stakeholder related documents from November 2020 to date namely: the KZN Stakeholder Coordination and Engagement Strategy, KZN OSS Revitalization Strategy as well as the KZN Strategy on the District Multi-Sectorial Stakeholder Forum which seek to enhance seamless stakeholder-led implementation of service delivery priorities of the 6th provincial administration.

- It was therefore necessary that immediately after His Excellency President of the RSA Mr Cyril Ramaphosa has delivered the 2021 State of the Nation Address followed by the State of the Province Address by the honorable Premier Mr Sihle Zikalala that all KZN District Multi-Sectorial Stakeholder Forums starting with King Cetshwayo were activated to achieve the following objectives:

a) To create an awareness about the soon to be implemented KZN Strategy on District Multi-Sectorial Stakeholder Forum and thereby laying a solid foundation for the launch of these Forums in all 11 KZN districts

b) To simplify the 2021 SONA and SOPA priorities as well as the Stakeholder Coordination Branch priority programmes/interventions to all District stakeholders

c) To outline a posture taken by KZN government on the provision of integrated government services through a ONE DISTRICT, ONE PLAN AND ONE BUDGET APPROACH (OSS/DDM) as well as Stakeholder Coordination and Engagement through Social Compacting.

It is therefore against this objective that the King Cetshwayo Multi-Sectorial Stakeholder Forum held on 26 March 2021 was attended by the District Local House of Traditional Leaders (Amakhosi); Chamber of Business and Industry, Forums - Men's, Women, Senior Citizens, Disability Forums; Unemployed Graduates; Police Stations and Safety Structures; SGB's; Community Development Workers; Community Caregivers; Taxi Associations; Labour Structures; Active Land Claims/Trust-Farm Owners Associations; Civil Society Forum; Moral Regeneration Movement; Faith Based Structure; Youth Council; District Aids Council; Institutions of Higher Learning (TVETS and Universities) and Sports Confederations.

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2. Critical resolutions taken

Unanimously the King Cetshwayo District Stakeholders applauded the KZN government as led by the Office of the Premier for the robust and interactive engagement initiative with the emphasis on the deepening of democracy and ensuring that it is safe for all especially in the context of Covid 19. The following high-level resolutions were then taken:

a) That in the King Cetshwayo stakeholders especially those who are organized shall then be registering in the stakeholder database of the District municipality to prepare for the launch of the KCD District Multi-Sectorial Stakeholder Forum in the next 60 days.

b) That the KCD Stakeholders shall identify areas of strategic and operational influence (guided by 2021 KZN SOPA) on which to collaborate and partner with KZN government as well as municipalities.

c) That the KCD stakeholders shall avail themselves when both the Office of the Premier and COGTA roll out the OSS/DDM Stakeholder Advocacy Programme between April and June 2021.

d) That the provincial government as led by the Office of the Premier shall coordinate interventions seeking to unblock challenges of undocumented learners.

e) That the family of municipalities within KCD shall ensure that their 2021-2022 IDPs and budgets to be adopted in May/June 2021 are aligned to 2021 SONA and SOPA priorities.

f) That all the provincial government and municipal officials must in their annual performance contracts have indicators on OSS/DDM

g) That the Office of the Premier must immediately provide the required support to the KCD District Aids Council and thereby enhancing its efficacy.

h) That the KZN Strategy on District Multi-Sectorial Stakeholder

Forum must ensure the alignment between civil society and government established structures to avoid unnecessary competition and duplication of resources.

I) That the recently adopted KZN Consequence Management Policy/Strategy must be popularized within the District Multi-Sectorial Stakeholder Forums as well.

j) That KZN government through EDTEA and other departments to intervene immediately in harnessing the identified economic opportunities within the District as part of responding to one of the five strategic priorities of KZN government during the 2021-2022 financial year (RE-IGNITING THE ECONOMY AND JOB CREATION)

k) That the KCD District Multi-Sectorial Stakeholder Forum be applauded for the high level of dedication, commitment and discipline which makes it to stand out among the best performing districts in KZN.

3. What is the next course of action?

The Stakeholder Coordination Branch through the Stakeholder Management unit is currently awaiting the commencement of the new financial year (01 April 2021) to then roll out the programme of visiting all the remaining 10 KZN Districts in driving the realization of the three strategic objectives as they relate to the establishment and functionality of the District Multi-Sectorial Stakeholder Forums.

It is anticipated that by the second week of May 2021 all KZN Districts must have been visited for them to clear comprehend their role in the governance of KZN province including municipalities as well.

Parallel to these visits the KZN province shall also see the inauguration of the District Multi-Sectorial Stakeholder Forums which will for the first time in the history of KZN receive, engage and resolve on a wide range of governance performance rather than focusing on one specific and sectorial issue.



MEET THE NEW MEMBER OF COMMUNICATION TEAM



Mr Clifford Mkhize

The Provincial Government Communications directorate was recently joined by a new staff member, Clifford Mkhize, as a Deputy Director. In the middle of his busy schedule, Yolanda Mahlambu was able to pin him for a small chat.

1. Who is Mr. Mkhize?

I am a married father of two boys and two girls and I was born and raised in Pietermaritzburg, where I attended my primary, high school and tertiary education. I am a voracious reader of books - both fiction and non-fiction - a hobby which I cultivated at a very young age. I am passionate about current affairs on radio and television.

2. Prior to your employment at OTP, who was your previous employer?

I started my journalism career at Independent Newspapers in Johannesburg. I then moved to Durban where I was employed by Independent Newspapers as a Deputy Production Manager for more than ten years. Before then I had worked for Avusa Publishers, the owners of Sunday Times, Sowetan and other publications as a Senior Layout Sub Editor.

3. What inspired Mr. Mkhize to apply for a position in the Office of the Premier?

I wanted a change of environment, most importantly I wanted to contribute to the growth of my province by being directly involved in portraying a positive image of what the government is doing to address the triple challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment.

4. What do you wish to contribute in Government?

As a Government employee, It is my earnest wish to contribute positively to the work that is done by all spheres of government to ensure that service delivery goals are realized timeously and efficiently.

5. What are your interest and hobbies?

As stated earlier, I love reading books. Moreover, I am a fitness fanatic who enjoys running medium to long distances to keep fit and healthy. I have run six Comrades Marathons, three Two Oceans Marathons and countless standard marathons (42.2km).

I am an avid follower of Orlando Pirates, EzikaMagebhula!

COVID-19 VACCINE ROLLOUT

Vaccines save lives!

- Vaccination is the best defence against serious illness and death.
- The vaccine does not give you the COVID-19 virus. The vaccine teaches your immune system to recognise and fight the infection if you were infected with the coronavirus.
- The COVID-19 vaccine gives the body the instructions to build immunity. It does not alter human cells, because it does not interact with or alter your DNA.
- It is possible to eliminate COVID-19 by ensuring that we vaccinate enough people to achieve population immunity - but we all have to choose vaccination.

The vaccine will be rolled-out in three phases.

- Phase 1 began on 17 February 2021 and targets about 1.5 million frontline healthcare workers. It will run for 3 months until mid-May 2021.
- Phase 2 is planned to commence from mid-May to October 2021, targeting over 16,6 million people from vulnerable groups, like the elderly, frontline (people facing) workers and people living in congregate settings.
- Phase 3 is planned to commence from November 2021 to February 2022, targeting over 22 million healthy people 18 years and older.
- The vaccination roll out plan aims to vaccinate 67% of the population. We however remain committed to vaccinate all adults living in South Africa who wish to be vaccinated.

- Policy guidelines are being finalized to guide the vaccination roll out for undocumented adults living in South Africa. Vaccination of this group will be rolled out once these guidelines are in place.

Government is working to procure vaccines speedily.

- 75 million doses of vaccines have been secured: J&J 31 million, Pfizer 20 million, COVAX 12 Million and AU 12 Million
- We are still negotiating with Russia (Sputnik V), China (Sinopharm/ Sinovac), Cuba (Seborena), Moderna, and others.

Government is rapidly ramping up vaccine rollout and expanding vaccination sites.

- The Sisonke Protocol is progressing well and doses received per week are used up in the same week.
- Johnson and Johnson is expected to deliver the remaining 200 000 doses for the Sisonke Protocol on schedule.
- The Protocol has to date vaccinated more than 231 000 people in 54 sites.
- The vaccination sites for Phases 2 and 3 will be expanded to 2085 sites countrywide.
- Sites will include public and private sector facilities, retail outlets, stadiums and conference centres.
- During the mass vaccination rollout, about 200 000 people will be vaccinated a day. Source: GCIS



KZN Premier and MEC's visit the family of the late former Premier, Dr Frank Mdlalose

KwaZulu-Natal Premier, Mr Sihle Zikalala and members of the provincial Executive Council on Sunday, 05/04/2021 visited the family of the late Dr Frank Mdlalose in Madadeni outside Newcastle. Dr Frank Mdlalose, the first democratically elected Premier of KwaZulu-Natal passed on Saturday, 04/04/2021. Following the unbanning of the ANC in 1990, Dr Mdlalose worked tirelessly with ANC leaders in efforts to stop the violence between ANC and Inkatha supporters. Dr Mdlalose served as a member of the National Peace Committee, an organ of multiple parties which sought to cement peace in the country and especially KwaZulu-Natal.

In 1991 Dr Mdlalose, together with then ANC Chairperson of Southern Natal Jacob Zuma, led the first peace efforts between their two parties when they set up the Peace and Reconstruction Foundation. This laid the first foundation stone for peace that up to this day prevails between the ANC and the IFP. Dr Mdlalose was a leader with eyes fixed firmly on the masses of our people and extending beyond the party line. He believed fervently that peace was a necessary condition not only for successful national and provincial elections, but for the socio-economic development of the people of the province. We will remember Dr Mdlalose

for his prominent role as leader and negotiator during the Codesa negotiations which were held at Kempton Park and eventually led to the 1994 elections. Following the democratic elections, Dr Mdlalose was elected Premier. In 1996 Dr Mdlalose was appointed by President Mandela to become South Africa's Ambassador to Egypt. Born in the Northern KwaZulu-Natal village of Nquthu on 29 November 1931, Dr Mdlalose would have turned 90 this year.

Dr Mdlalose sharpened his academic prowess at the University of Fort Hare where he obtained a BSc degree in 1952 and a University Education Diploma in 1953. In his formative years, Dr Mdlalose was a member of the ANC Youth League before becoming one of

the founding members of the IFP in 1975, together with IFP President Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi. KwaZulu-Natal owes Dr Mdlalose immensely for his unquantifiable contribution to peace and prosperity in the province and for his role as the country's ambassador abroad. From his life, we will draw many lessons such as that of true servant leadership, self-sacrifice, unending patience and humility when dealing with the people. May Dr Mdlalose's family draw strength during this time knowing that his was a life lived fully, and with an indelible legacy.

**May His Soul Rest in Peace.
Hamba Kahle Nyanda wephahla,
Khwenta, Madlula,
Mgabashe, Bhudukuziwise,
Phangakufa!**





KZN PREMIER SIHLE ZIKALALA WELCOMES THE GRANTING OF SPECIAL PROVINCIAL FUNERAL FOR FORMER PREMIER FRANK MDLALOSE

KZN Premier Sihle Zikalala has welcomed the declaration by His Excellency President Cyril Ramaphosa to grant the late former and first democratically elected Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Dr Frank Mdlalose, a Special Official Provincial Funeral Category 2.

A Special Provincial Official Funeral Category 2 is accorded to distinguished persons specifically designated by the President of South Africa on request by the Premier of a province.

Dr Frank Mdlalose will be remembered for his prominent role as a leader and negotiator during the Codesa negotiations which were held at Kempton Park and eventually led to the 1994 elections. He also played an instrumental role in cultivating peace in the province of KwaZulu-Natal working alongside senior leaders of the ANC and the IFP.

The funeral of Former Premier Dr Frank Mdlalose will take place this coming Thursday, 08 April 2021, at Madadeni Township in Newcastle.

As part of the funeral arrangements, the South African Police Service will provide ceremonial elements, and the flag will be flown at half-mast in the province on the day.

The granting of a special provincial funeral to Dr Mdlalose by the President will ensure that his legacy to our nation is aptly honoured and remembered.



School KZN Premier Opens Pholela Special



The Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Sihle Zikalala and the MEC for Education, Kwazi Mshengu, this week officially opened the state-of-the-art Pholela Special School in Bulwer, under the Harry Gwala District.

The KZN Department of Education's Pholela Special School has an enrolment of 350 learners in the Midlands Location.

The school has many amenities, which are essential for learners with special needs education, which includes hostels for learners as well as residences for educators. It also has two consulting dispensaries and a sick bay.

The school caters for children with various health and learning issues, including Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), partially sighted, Attention Deficit Disability (ADD), Severe Intellectual Disability (SID), and epilepsy among others.

The school opening comes after a few months when MEC Mshengu and the Deputy Minister for Basic Education, Dr Riginah Mhaule, handed over more than 15 busses for learners with special needs education in the Province of KwaZulu-Natal.

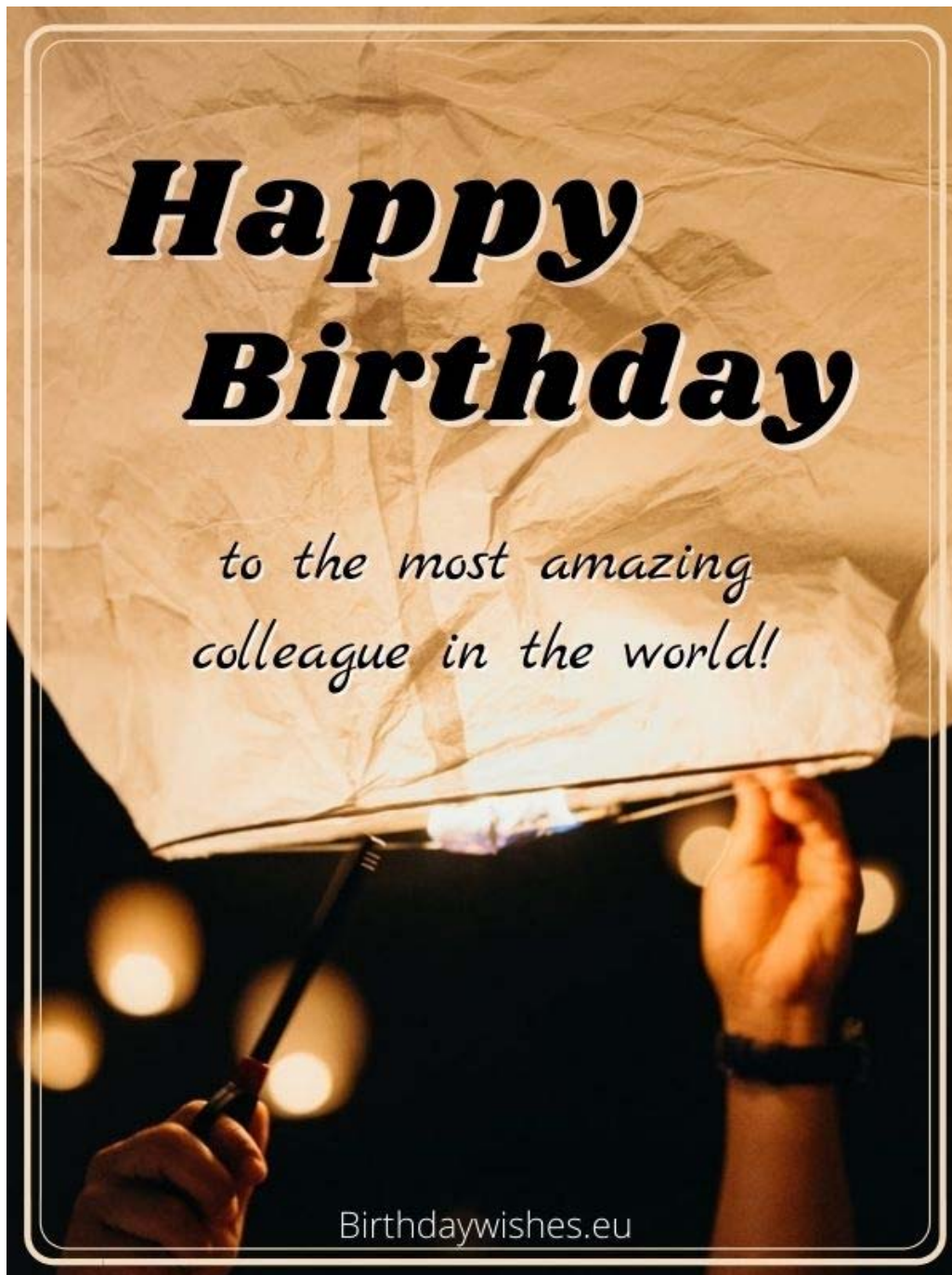
"This is a continuation of our programme, which we started a while ago to reassert the right to education for our learners with special needs education.

We want to give what is due to learners with special needs and we don't want them to feel like a charity case that is attended to once everything else has been done.

The plight of learners with special needs has now taken a centre stage in the Department," said MEC Mshengu.



Happy Birthday to Aries



Premier's Stars wish all colleagues born between 21 March - 19 April, birthdays filled with love, joy and peace. People born under this star sign, among other qualities are passionate, motivated and confident. Famous people under this star sign among others are Mrs Charlotte Maxeke (SA politician and social activist), Former President Jacob Zuma and Mariah Carey (Singer).

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**GROWING
KWAZULU-NATAL
TOGETHER**