



LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

COGHSTA

ONLINE **NEWS**

OFFICIAL QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CO-OPERATIVE
GOVERNANCE, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS & TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS



**TOOLS OF TRADE
FOR SENIOR
TRADITIONAL
LEADERS.**

**2023/24
BUDGET VOTE
IN PICTURES**

**MEC MAKAMU
NEVER RELAXES
TO DELIVER
HOUSES TO
THE DESTITUTE.**

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

*“Stay Away from Negative People.
They have a Problem of Every Solution”.*



Editor: Khathutshelo Razwiedani

At the outset, I'm humbled and would like to thank CoGHSTA News Team for providing me with the opportunity to present to you a collection of articles penned by our most illustrious corporate journalists and contributors during our last fourth quarter issue. No words of thanks are enough for our MEC of CoGHSTA, Mr Basikopo Makamu for his unwavering leadership that he bestowed during the

presentation of our departmental budget vote. This remained a blueprint of programmes and projects which CoGHSTA team and its stakeholders should implement as they deliver services to the people of Limpopo in this financial year.

I hope you would enjoy this issue just as much as we did in putting it

together. Just to give you a sneak peek of what you may expect to read over the next pages on what our individual departmental authors have tried to convey through their articles, to list a few: view from the House(Legislature), Inauguration of Senior Traditional Leaders, funerals of Senior Traditional Leaders, Asbestos Project in Seshego, Housing Hand-Over to destitute families, Strategic Planning of Limpopo House of Traditional Affairs and the pronouncement of the new “Big” spanner in the works, who else rather than HoD, Dr Modjajdi Malahlela to the staff by the MEC of CoGHSTA, Mr Basikopo Makamu.

I'm convinced that these articles will contribute to stimulate and keep you abreast in terms of giving a slight reflection of what our key messengers and stakeholders are engaged with. As CoGHSTA News Team, we will continue to remain vigilant and pro-active on promoting our departmental core values in a continuous worthwhile growth and innovation in building a sustainable good image of our department. As I conclude, one of the greatest legendary thinker and philosopher Albert Einstein once said “Stay Away from Negative People. They have a Problem of Every Solution”.

Stay Sanctified. Thank You

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DEPARTMENT OF CoGHSTA LIMPOPO PROVINCE IS AT THE CENTRE OF COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE

Due to its accountability to the national legislative bodies and support of municipalities in the cooperative governance ethos, the Department of COGHSTA Limpopo Province is at the centre of cooperative governance and works to bring about financial stability and fully functional institutions in the province. The department has 03 mandatory obligations to fulfil:

- Through its Human Settlements programs, the department also works to fulfil its constitutional duty to provide excellent, adequate housing and to elevate the quality of the surrounding environment,
- The Department of CoGHSTA carries a government's mission to provide a sustainable support for development to Institutions of Traditional Leaders. The government will continue to promote this institution of traditional leaders as a means of expanding a participatory democracy and improving service delivery to rural communities because they are closest to the people and represent the first layer of governance.
- Support, capacitate and monitor programs and service delivery projects in municipalities.

Time to time, through legislative mandate. All departments at Provincial Sphere of government are required to account through its oversight committees, namely: Portfolio Committee, Standing Committee on Public Accounts and the Standing Committee on Public Participation and Petition. The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa seeks to keep all Provincial Executive Council members accountable through the creation of these committees.



Mr Maswanganyi MO
Deputy Director: Community Outreach Officer

The department is by legislation required to draft an Annual Budget Vote every financial year which is tabled before Provincial Legislature for adoption. The department is also required to prepare quarterly reports of its performance which are presented to the Portfolio Committee as a way of accountability which will assist the Portfolio committee to play its oversight role. The Portfolio Committee has the authority to call a member of the executive or department and that member's head of department to come before them, provide evidence or produce documents, and possibly even be requested to submit a report.

The Standing Committee on Public Accounts Acts as Legislature's watchdog over the way taxpayers' money is spent by the departments. Every financial year, the Auditor General submits reports on the department's accounts and financial management, and the Standing Committee on Public Account may investigate any unauthorized, irregular, or fruitless expenditures made by the department and suggest appropriate corrective measures.

The CoGHSTA Portfolio Committee will continue to play oversight role and support the department as required by its charter in an effort to meet the following expectations to ensure stability, monitoring and support all 27 municipalities in the province, provide the people of Limpopo with quality adequate houses that provides security and comfort, and support Traditional Affairs



A brand-new set of wheels for Traditional Leaders.

TOOLS OF TRADE FOR SENIOR TRADITIONAL LEADERS.

The Limpopo Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) will this financial year kick start the process of procuring vehicles for Senior Traditional Leaders. Government will procure vehicles for Senior Traditional Leaders on a budget of R55million for 2023/24 financial year. Another 100 will be procured in 2024/25 with a budget of R55 million. "Our commitment to support the institution of traditional leadership would be without substance if Traditional Leaders are not assisted with tools of

trade. Of cardinal importance, our covenant with Limpopo Traditional Leadership solidifies. The department acknowledges and supports the critical role of traditional leadership institutions across the province and its contribution towards the fulfilment of the developmental agenda. The support to institutions of traditional leadership involves a wide range of activities as well as many other tools of trade which enable them to provide services to their communities", said MEC Makamu.



A CHARISMATIC SENIOR TRADITIONAL LEADER TO LEAD THE SEKORORO DYNASTY.

Kgoshi Matshengoane Sekororo is the newly installed Senior Traditional Leader of ga Sekororo.

Rain could not dampen the spirits of hundreds of people who came in numbers to witness the inauguration of Kgoshi Sekororo Matshengona Shane (32) as their Senior Traditional Leader on Friday, 31 March 2023, ga Sekororo, Maruleng Local Municipality. The inauguration was conducted during heavy rain, **Pula!** a character of peace and tranquility to the Sekororo dynasty.

Kgoshi Matshengona Shane Sekororo was born and bred at Moshira Village (Leruleng Section) within Tubatse Municipality. He is the firstborn son of Ms. Thobetjane Matladi Mavies and the late Kgoshi Sekororo Sekgalabjabana Seshego Solly. He is succeeding his late father, who died in 2020 after a short illness. In the year 2022, the Royal Family (Bakgoma ba Sekororo and the inner circle) of Moshate wa Ga-Sekororo collectively agreed to install Kgoshi Sekororo Matshengona Shane as their next Senior Traditional Leader.

His late father, Kgoshi Sekororo, affectionately known as "Triple S", in 1983, was the Chairperson of the Naphuno Council Authority, which was the Regional Traditional Authority at the time. In the same period, he was a member of the former Lebowa Legislative Assembly, and Minister of Water Affairs under the then Lebowa Government. He generously extended his contributions to the country's ANC-Led democratic era, as he was a member of the Limpopo Legislature between 1994 and 1999. It was during this period that he also served as the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture, Land Affairs and Environment. In 2002, the late Kgoshi was elected Chairperson of the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders, he then Chaired Contralesa in 2009 and continued to serve, in one form or another, in these bodies throughout his

leadership career.

Speaking during the Ceremony the MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements & Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Mr Basikopo Makamu said: "Our ANC-led government is never lost to the importance of our Senior Traditional Leaders and the role they play in our communities. Your participation in the social cohesion and economic development of our communities is crucial. It is for this reason that we are consistent in showing our open commitment to provincial traditional leadership matters by always reserving time to meet with you and your communities, especially in occasions where we celebrate ancient practices such as this".

MEC Makamu urged the newly installed Kgoshi to learn from his late father, Kgoshi Sekororo. He described him as an extraordinary man, "You and your people today take this step into a future that is unfamiliar. But beyond change, we acknowledge that you take over this seat of authority from an extraordinary man, and the shoes you are filling are massive.

The late Kgoshi Seshego Sekororo led this community for 38 years, with absolute distinction. He was revered for his love for his people, a champion of development who engaged in important matters with high intellect and compassion".

The Chairperson of the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders, Hosi Pheni Ngove congratulated Kgoshi and urged him to be humble and listen to the advice from family and other key stakeholders. Kgoshi Matshengoane Sekororo has vowed to work hand in hand with key stakeholders to bring development to his village.

THOVHELE MAKUYA LAID TO REST.



A Leader par Excellence

Family, relatives, and friends attended the Funeral Service of the late Thovhele Makuya.

Community members from Ha-Makuya and surrounding villages gathered on Friday, 24 March 2023 to pay their last respect to their late leader, Thovhele Lavhelesani Ntsweteni Makuya.

Makuya (61) was the only son of Vho-Mutshekwa and the late Thovhele Nngigideni Karel Makuya. During his reign, he was focused in bringing development in the area. The late Thovhele was a visionary leader who managed to build trusting relationships with relevant stakeholders including members of the community and that saw the success of many key projects in his area.

The MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs



The MEC for CoGHSTA, Mr Basikopo Makamu speaking during the funeral service of the late Thovhele Makuya.

(CoGHSTA), Mr Basikopo Makamu in his eulogy delivery, said: “We are gathered here today to bid farewell to an exceptional leader who never cowed in the face of challenges. As a Province, we are poorer without Thovhele Makuya. Death has taken away from us a true friend and a gifted human being”.

SENSATIONAL!

Traditional Leaders on a Strategic Session

“I would like to thank Traditional Leaders for making time and attending this strategic planning session. I am confident that the outcome of this session will be of greater good to communities in which you reign”.

In support of the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders (LHTL) and the role that Traditional Leaders play in uplifting rural communities, CoGHSTA MEC, Mr Basikopo Makamu attended the House's 2022-2027 Term Strategic Planning Session at Forever Resorts Warmbaths. Belabela.

From the 07-09 February 2023, members of the LHTL broke into commissions to engage in various sub-committees of the LHTL namely; Tradition, Culture and Customs; Rules and Constitutional Development; Social Development and Gender Equality; Planning and Cooperative Governance; Agriculture and Land; and Initiation School. Commissions not only identified key outcomes and activities during the session but further conducted a strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) analysis of the outlined



MEC Makamu witnesses as Chairperson of the House, Hosi Pheni Ngove signs a Memorandum of Understanding between the LHTL and National Heritage Council.

sub-committees.

Addressing members of the House, MEC Makamu wished delegates well on their deliberations. “I would like to thank Traditional Leaders for making time and attending this strategic planning session. I am confident that the outcome of this session will be of greater good to communities in which you reign”.

In conclusion, Chairperson of the House, Hosi Pheni Ngove signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the House and stakeholders such as the Limpopo Department of Social Development, National Heritage Council to name a few.



The LHTL's Strategic Planning Session for the 2022-2027 term was held from 07-09 February 2023.

The MEC for CoGHSTA, Mr Basikopo Makamu, residents of Seshego, Ms Lebogang Mashilwane, Mr Andrew Thema and the Executive Mayor of Polokwane Municipality, Cllr John Mpe during a Media Tour to showcase the progress on the removal and replacement of asbestos roofing in Seshego under Polokwane Local Municipality.



The asbestos roofing of the Thema house in Seshego was replaced with corrugated iron as part of the Department's initiative to ensure an asbestos free Limpopo.



MEC Makamu interacting with Ms Lucy Rakumako, a resident of Seshego during a Media Tour to showcase the progress on the removal and replacement of asbestos roofing in Seshego under Polokwane Local Municipality.

MEC MAKAMU DECLARES SESHEGO

AN ASBESTOS-FREE ENVIRONMENT

To mitigate health risk emissions from asbestos to an asbestos-risk-free environment, the Limpopo MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Mr Basikopo Makamu joined by the Executive Mayor of Polokwane, Cllr. John Mpe visited Seshego ward 17 and 37 as part of a quality assessment and oversight visit of the asbestos roofing removal and replacement project. The event took place on Tuesday, 14 February 2023 in Seshego, Polokwane. CoGHSTA has joined hands with the National Department of Human Settlements and the Housing Development Agency (HDA) as the Implementing Agent to eradicate 1 500 asbestos roofs. It is estimated that the project will run for a period of 18 months.

The Department began exploring the initiative following the heavy rains and hailstorms that damaged some roofs of Seshego residents in 2020, further exacerbating the health risks attached to the roofing material.

Asbestos is known to cause fatal diseases; it is a dangerous silent killer especially when a person is exposed to a strong concentration or moderate amounts on a regular basis for a long time. The symptoms of these diseases do not usually appear until about 20 to 30 years after initial exposure. South Africa banned the use, import and manufacturing of asbestos in 2008 due to its health hazardous risks.

Speaking during the Media Tour, MEC Makamu said he is happy with the progress made thus far, "I am happy with the progress as we are fulfilling what is stated in the Freedom Charter that there should be Houses, Security and Comfort". Ms Lucy Rakumako (62), a pensioner who lives in Ward 37 purchased the property in 1997, which was previously known as a dormitory for industrial employees. She lives with three children and eight grandchildren. "The hailstorm in 2020 worsened my situation when it damaged my roofing, but I am happy government came to our rescue".

The Media Tour was concluded by a Media Briefing on site.

MEC MAKAMU

NEVER RELAXES TO DELIVER HOUSES TO THE DESTITUTE.

The MEC for CoGHSTA, Mr Basikopo Makamu has handed over this brand-new RDP house to the Phaahla family.

The MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements & Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Mr Basikopo Makamu has handed over two houses to beneficiaries within the Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, namely Ms Elsie Phaahla (63) and Ms Violet Phahlamohlaka (79). Life has not been easy for the two senior citizens as they did not have proper shelter to stay with their families. Their plight changed for the better recently when the MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements & Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Mr Basikopo Makamu handed them keys to their brand-new RDP houses. Both beneficiaries survive on social grant provided by government.

Speaking during the handing over, MEC Makamu said the Department continues to implement what is stated in the Freedom Charter which was adopted in 1955. It is stated in the Freedom



The MEC for CoGHSTA, Mr Basikopo Makamu, Mr Sello Phaahla (son of a beneficiary) and Kgoshi Letsiri Phaahla during the handing over of two RDP houses (belonging to the Phaahla and Phahlamohlaka families).

Charter that “*There Shall be Houses, Security and Comfort for All.*” he said.

He added that “*As a nation we have come a long way since the attainment of our democracy, and we are not looking back. The department will not rest until all deserving beneficiaries have proper shelter.*”



Under the theme “Peer Learning” the workshop also aimed to mitigate the risks posed and establish ways to design infrastructure that is resilient in any disaster.

INFRASTRUCTURE RISK MITIGATION –

A Way to Bailout Service Delivery Impediments in Municipalities

With parts of Limpopo having been affected by floods recently, the Municipal Institutional Capacity Building (MICB) section within the Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) in partnership with the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) found it necessary and fundamental to host a workshop on Infrastructure Risk Mitigation.

The workshop took place at Bolivia Lodge on 10 February 2023 under the theme “Peer Learning”. In attendance were Municipal Managers, Chief Financial Officers and Engineers in the built environment who outlined some of the challenges encountered in municipalities regarding disaster-threats and risks they pose to infrastructure.

The engagement also aimed to mitigate the risks posed and establish ways to design infrastructure that is resilient to any disaster.

Presenting on Disaster Intervention, Mr Freedom Mthetwa from Tzaneen Local Municipality indicated that warning systems should be put in place in cases where disasters such as floods are forecasted. “In the event of a potential disaster, the Disaster Management team will be dispatched to



MICB's Cecil Rathogwa leading the Infrastructure Risk Mitigation Workshop Programme at Bolivia Lodge recently.

help evacuate residents in the affected areas that are at risk in advance.” He said.

He further expressed the importance for Traditional Leaders to consult municipalities before allocating stands as most houses built in some areas are in flood lines.

Finally, a request was proposed for adequate budget to be allocated for municipalities to maintain infrastructure e.g., potholes, drainage systems that have either been damaged /blocked due to floods or heavy rain.

MUNMEC ADDRESSES SERVICE DELIVERY ISSUES WITHIN MUNICIPALITIES



Municipal Matters: Polokwane Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr John Mpe engaging in discussions during the MUNMEC Meeting



MEC Basikopo Makamu chairing the MUNMEC meeting at Bolivia Lodge.

Following some notable audit outcome improvements in some municipalities in the province, MEC for Limpopo Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Basikopo Makamu together with MEC for Provincial Treasury, Seaparo Sekoati co-chaired a Municipal and Members of the Executive Council (MUNMEC) Meeting at Bolivia Lodge.

Attended by Executive Mayors and Mayors on 02 February 2023, the meeting's agenda entailed among other things the tabling of Audit Reports, State of Municipal Finances, Provincial Social Stability, 2023/24 Human Settlements Delivery Programme and Councillor Welfare from the Auditor General, Provincial Treasury, Department of State Security, CoGHSTA and South African Local Government Association (SALGA) respectively.

In his address MEC Makamu applauded Municipalities that attained Clean Audits. MEC further urged municipalities to submit monthly reports to Limpopo Provincial Treasury as failure to do so will continuously hinder Treasury from providing adequate support in reducing unwanted expenditure in municipalities.

MEC MAKAMU WELCOMED STAFF AND INTRODUCED THE NEWLY APPOINTED HOD



Plans for the New Year: MEC Makamu Addressing CoGHSTA Staff on the 24th of January 2023.



Head of Department: Dr. Modjadji Malahlela assumed her duties as Head of Department for CoGHSTA on 1 January 2023.

The impopo Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) first foyer was full the brim when MEC Basikopo Makamu hosted a staff address to welcome officials back in 2023. The staff address which was in conjunction with the official introduction of the newly appointed Head of Department (HOD), Dr. Modjadji Malahlela took place on Tuesday, 24 January 2023 at Hensa Towers.

In his address, Makamu touched on his quest to find out what the challenges staff members encounter that hinder them to perform their daily duties optimally. "Having done door to door visits

and interacting with staff members in some of the offices in the department, I have realized that there is a shortage of basic working tools such as photocopiers and printers which can be frustrating to officials". He further said that under his leadership and support of the newly appointed HOD and staff, he will continuously try to better the working conditions of employees to return the Department to its best performing state.

MEC concluded by officially welcoming HOD Malahlela and wished her the best in her new position.



CoGHSTA officials Welcomed HOD Malahlela's Appointment

2023/24 BUDGET VOTE IN PICTURES

The MEC for Limpopo Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Mr Basikopo Makamu invited stakeholders and officials as he tabled the Department's 2023/24 Financial Year Budget Vote.



A Trio of Leaders: MEC Makamu, HOD Modjadji Malahlela with Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders Chairperson, Hosi Pheni Ngove at the tabling of the 2023/24 financial year Budget Vote.



When two Departments meet: MEC Basikopo Makamu meeting with MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, Thabo Mokone prior presenting their respective departments' Budget Votes.



Traditional Affairs: Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders Deputy Chairperson, Kgoshi Rammupudu at the 2023/24 Budget Vote.



Broad Smiles: Rental Housing Tribunal Secretariat Simon Nkosi and Mpho Raphoko with the Deputy-Director General for Integrated Sustainable Human Settlements (ISHS), Mr Simon Mokgala.

2023/24 BUDGET VOTE IN PICTURES

The MEC for Limpopo Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Mr Basikopo Makamu invited stakeholders and officials as he tabled the Department's 2023/24 Financial Year Budget Vote.



Chairperson of the Rental Housing Tribunal, Advocate Letsepe Thubakgale.



Departmental Contractors: Zorah Khan of Zorah Khan Developers attending the department's 2023/24 Budget Vote.



Solid Support Structure: MEC Makamu with Officials from his Office, Ms Lalamani Mphephu (Left) and Ms Mpho Tshikororo (Right) during the 2023/24 Budget Vote.



All systems go: The MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements & Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Mr Basikopo Makamu entering the Legislature Chamber to table the 2023/24 Budget Vote for the department.



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