

Traditional leaders and stakeholders yet to deliver another successful 2019/20 Limpopo initiation schools season

In an effort to share challenges and ensuring that correct procedures are followed, Traditional Leaders and Stakeholders put heads together to deliver another 2019 successful initiation school season. Initiation practice should be in line with Limpopo Initiation Schools Act 6 of 2016 and Limpopo Initiation Schools Regulations of 2019 in terms of compliance etc. The Workshop that took place on Thursday, 23 May 2019 at Bolivia Lodge in Polokwane had traditional leaders, healers, headmen, heads of initiation schools and the newly appointed MEC for the Department, Mr. Basikopo Makamu. A total number of the approved initiation schools is 327 (189 males and 138 females). About 66 applications for initiation schools were declined. The Limpopo Initiation Schools Season will run from the 7 June 2019 to 14 July 2019. Kgoshi Dikgale advised those whose applications were not successful to follow the right processes to appeal than to force issues and open illegal initiation schools as the law will take its course. Makamu expressed how energised he is to meet Traditional Leaders. "I understand that the Premier appointed me knowing that there are challenges in traditional councils and I plan to tackle those challenges with you. I promise not to spend my days in the office but at traditional councils where we will work together and come up with solutions to some of the challenges you are facing," he assured delegates. Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders Chairperson, Kgoshi Malesela Dikgale wished delegates nothing but, the best in the 2019/20 initiation season and further urged them to follow the correct procedures when conducting initiation. "Limpopo is not only known for its high number of approved initiation schools but, hosting the most successful and death free initiation season," he said. Kgoshi Rammupudu emphasized that the presence of the delegates in large numbers clearly reflects that traditional leaders treasure this cultural practice and do not want it to fade. "Last year, 50375 initiates enrolled in schools and there were no deaths reported. We hope that this season will also bring zero deaths initiates" said Rammupudu.



Newly appointed MEC Basikopo Makamu met with the Limpopo Initiation Schools Committee.