

CoGHSTA NEWS



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

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FAREWELL KGOMO!

unwithering footprints



*Goodbye.....Dignitaries bidding farewell to CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane at Bolivia Lodge in Polokwane....
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FOREWORD BY MEC Mr. Clifford Motsepe



It is an honour and privilege to participate in this fourth quarter edition of CoGHSTA News. We do so as we bid farewell to the former MEC of Co-operative Governance,

Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Soviet Lekganyane. He came into office in May 2009, almost three years ago. Through his outstanding leadership qualities and political acumen, we were able to take this department to another level in terms of performance. Three years in a row, the department was voted the best performing department in the province. We were also voted the best Human Settlement department in the country and the only Human Settlement department that has received a clean audit.

During the Limpopo ANC conference

which took place at the University of Limpopo, Turfloop Campus in December last year, Comrade Soviet Lekganyane was elected the Provincial Secretary of the ANC. In terms of the policy of the African National Congress, the Provincial Secretary works on a full time basis at the ANC offices. This is the reason for his departure from this department as an MEC. We are happy and satisfied that he is indeed leaving a very stable department.

He led the department with passion, dedication, honour and sheer hard work. That is serious work. There is time for everything and time had come for Mr Lekganyane to contribute differently to Limpopo and its people having laid a firm foundation for the department to continue to be a hub of service excellence and in the process better the lives of our people. Kgomo as he is affectionately known was a leader whose leadership traits resembled a man of integrity, vision, a master of team work, a man who valued relationships and most importantly a decisive decision maker.

I was recently sworn in as the new MEC for this department. I take this responsibility that has been accorded to me with both hands to lead this multi-award winning department, building on a rich legacy of Comrade Lekganyane's stewardship. I must admit that I am getting into big boots and believe my commitment and passion will enable me to carry out the mandate that has been given to me by the African National Congress. I believe in team work and my hope is that together as a team we will do more. Our aim is to continue to make this department a vibrant machine of service delivery. Our unity will ensure that we continue doing the sterling work that saw the department becoming a multi-award winning provincial department

The financial year 2012/13 is upon us. Let us roll up our sleeves and continue with the hard work we are doing for the people of Limpopo. Be loyal and true servants of the Province.

FAREWELL NOTE BY FORMER MECMr. Soviet Lekganyane



We take this opportunity to give our profound regards in the New Year, 2012. This does not only promise to be an exciting year but a memorable year of celebration of

the 100 years of the existence of the ruling party in South Africa, the African National Congress – Africa's oldest liberation movement. As we pay tribute to this landmark achievement we recognize the endurance, humility, sacrifice and selflessness evinced by this people's movement. The African National Congress has declared itself among South Africans through its inspirational leadership, principles and values. It has become part of the heritage of the people of South Africa and elsewhere in the sub-continent. The epoch-making 100 years should therefore be celebrated by all.

We are in the last quarter of the financial year 2011/2012. As at the end of December 2011 we have delivered more than 10 000 homes to the poor of this province, we have concluded the induction of all concillors and

have done group inauguration of Mayors in the five districts of the province.

The term of the House of Traditional Leaders is coming to an end in May this year. We had very good relations with the current leadership and complimented each other optimally. The challenges of traditional leadership are enormous and contentious, but this men and women stayed the cause. We confronted leadership disputes, unfolded the traditional leadership support programme, recognition of traditional communities, strengthening relations with government and review of legislature and policy matters. No amount of words or praise can thank the commitment and dedication shown by Kgoshi Sefogole Makgeru, the Deputy Khosi Vusani Netshimbupfe and members of the collective. We call on all traditional leaders to salute this collective and commence preparations for the next elections in May.

By now I expect all of you to know that I have been elected to the position of Provincial Secretary of the ANC in Limpopo. This is a fulltime responsibility at the ANC offices. I take this opportunity to thank all the employees in the department for having supported me in the last three years of my stay here. We have build a huge legacy in strengthening the culture of diligent service and excellence. We thank all the people of the province for the unwavering support and wise advises. The SABC, Capricorn Fm and

other community radio stations have covered our programmes sufficiently and generously.

Thanks a million times for the Premier for having made a courageous choice. The support of colleagues in the Executive Council has been reaffirming. These comrades have assisted me to settle in the leadership and focus at the task at hand. The support staffs at both CoGHSTA and Office of the Premier have been splendid. They performed their duties reliably and have always been a dependable lot. The Director – General has been unparalleled in her direction and guidance.

I worked with a very cohesive and smart collective, precise with details and proficient in their responsibilities, led by HoD Mr NC Motsepe, Ms NI Manamela, Mr NS Nchabeleng, Ms CAZ Mkhize and Mr MP Khunonu. Thanks very much.

I am passing the baton to the Head of Department who has recently been appointed the new MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional affairs.

We wish the new MEC well in his responsibilities as the political Head of this department.

Kwela-pela ya bo-kgomo ga e bowe le lenyora.

Phala tsa mona marula di a ya!



FROM ACTING HoD's DESK ... MS. Nnana Manamela

MEC Lekganyane leaves on a high note having led the department with sternness and diligence. He leaves the

department for the betterment of society from yet another sphere of life, and for another career opportunity. It is therefore my singular honour to say without any fear of contradiction that we really congratulate the former MEC Soviet Lekganyane on his election as the provincial secretary of the ANC.

We will miss the golden moments we spent with him during his tenure as the MEC of the department of CoGHSTA. He was a true inspiration and a beacon of hope to many of us.

He passes the baton to MEC Nkomotana Clifford Motsepe, who is also a leader in his own right, who administratively led this department in being recognized by various institutions including that of the Auditor General, for achieving a clean audit. Equally Fetakgomo Municipality for the second time was also bestowed the accolade by same, for also achieving a clean audit.

The Vision 2030 document as thoroughly discussed at the human settlements

Indaba, held in Lephalale recently, gives a firm trajectory of development in South Africa. The youth of our country and of our province are part of the stakeholders who need to afford innovation in the housing delivery value chain.

As an organization, we have always believed in the importance of communication the web is a powerful medium of communication, so we have ensured that ours is up-to-date and informative. Our new website is www.coghsta.limpopo.gov.za. Our medium-term plan is to have our new website also boasting new features, like media section where everyone can watch our departmental profile video. It will also feature an improved "Careers" section to help recruit the best individuals to join our CoGHSTAZen family. We improved the look and feel of CoGHSTA News, our official departmental magazine, just for you to receive the latest news and information on our organization.

I would like to take some time to address safety because nothing is more important than the safety and health of our employees, and those of our outside contractors, plus communities we serve. Each workplace needs to strengthen its operations each day by applying the three basic principles: communicate more, stop operations whenever safety is compromised, and swiftly allocate

necessary staff and resources to ensure a safe environment.

We welcome all our new recruits and we wish them a happy stay as part of our CoGHSTAZen family.

What a year! A year of jubilation and triumph! We won multiple awards; this is so because of people. None of this could have happened without our people's commitment and hard work, including the collegial relationship we have with our Trade Unions. On behalf of the management team of CoGHSTA I would like to extend my sincere thank you to everyone who has dedicated their work to excellence, and has helped CoGHSTA be the best department in the province for three years in succession. For this reason, we must continue to cultivate the professional skills and capabilities of our people.

Let me therefore, with all brevity, thank you so much Mr Lekganyane, for the goodness that we have enjoyed through your kindness. We wish you the brightest future.

Let me also take this opportunity to wish the newly appointed MEC for CoGHSTA Nkomotana Clifford Motsepe all the very best as he takes over the running of the department as a political head. You have our unwavering support and we welcome you with open arms.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK ... MS. Tseng Diale (CIO)

Dear readers

Welcome to the last issue of the financial year!

This is it! The journey traversed well and with precision! This has been a momentous year. We have been acknowledged for excellence by various institutions. This issue marks the last for MEC Soviet Lekganyane and new for MEC Nkomotana Clifford Motsepe as leaders of the department of co-operative governance, human settlements and traditional affairs. Motsepe won the 2011 Black Business Quarterly's Public Sector Visionary Award. Indeed we toiled and sweat, just to provide quality service to our people.

We have three important articles for you to read in this issue, all of which refer to the quality of service provision. The Each-One-Settle-One Campaign was

overwhelmingly supported by business after its launching by the Minister of Human Settlements Mr Tokyo Sexwale and MEC Lekganyane in Northampton. Anglo Platinum responded swiftly to government's clarion call.

It is not sufficient to merely crunch the obvious numbers in order to demonstrate quality financial management. One has to look deeper, to ask (sometimes uncomfortable) questions about how municipalities run their financial affairs. Fetakgomo Municipality has become the best-practice model country-wide in signifying good governance, clean administration and sound financial management. Even the National Auditor General Mr Terrance Nombembe recognized Fetakgomo Municipality for achieving a clean Audit for the 2010/11 financial year.

Traditional Leadership remains a

cornerstone of our societal development. Development without the involvement of this important sector will sternly

stall the anticipated development in our communities. The MEC Lekganyane was applauded by the Traditional Leadership for the consultative session he had with them. It takes an impeccable leader like Lekganyane to steer and overhaul this relationship.

From all of us as the team of Branding, Communications, and Corporate Records, Service Excellence branch we wish the MEC well in his new endeavor

Enjoy your reading!



FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY ...MR MARIBE MAMABOLO

The year 2011 was like the Old Testament in the bible wherein miracles were performed and people left astonished with the quality services they received. The Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs was on the mind and lips of myriad of the people in the country and Limpopo in particular. This was specifically due to the department being voted the best in the province. We will not have time to mention all the awards won in the last two years one by one but suffice to say that they are Twenty-one in number.

As we are resuming the New Year, we still believe that the department will maintain and sustain the status quo, chiefly because of the words of encouragement from the premier of the province, Cassel Mathale during state of the province address. "Every achievement we have registered as a provincial government has been through the dedication of our civil servants who serve loyally despite workplace challenges and the enormous challenges. We are busy with the process of finding amicable way forward for all these challenges so as to create a conducive environment at your place. Limpopo shines today because of the

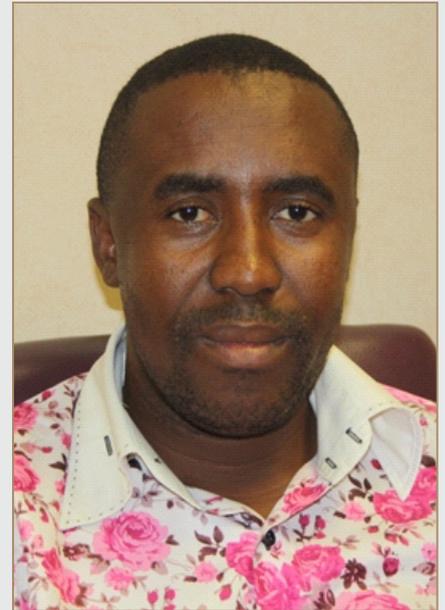
r emphasized the importance of working as a collective and that the focus should be mainly on service delivery. One of the biggest highlights in the state of the province regarding our department was the realisation of the pledge made to our people to build a modern family residential unit as part of instilling the pride of our people. You will remember that the department demolished the Old Seshego hostels with the aim of constructing decent units suitable for human settlements. The Premier reported in his address that the first phase of Seshego Community Residential Units has been completed and handed over to beneficiaries with the second phase of the project about to be completed.

What is pleasing is that since 2009, the department has provided forty six thousand seven hundred and forty three houses to our people. Plans are afoot in the coming financial year to deliver more than twelve thousand quality houses to beneficiaries.

As the department we welcome the contribution made by the private sector in helping government reduce the housing backlog in the province.

According to the Auditor General, Our department is listed among other departments that have performed excellently in the area of financial record keeping. We have also been acknowledged and commended for being the best in the country for implementing the Promotion of Access to Information Act (PAIA)

Consultation is one of Batho Pele principles presupposed by our democracy that people shall govern. Public hearings were held in three districts in Limpopo's Capricorn, Waterberg and Mopani respectively by national parliament. People were convened to express their feelings on the Protection of the State Information Bill. Members of the public and different structures in the community



took part in this initiative that will see the bill owned by everyone. We hope that through these efforts, the final product will be the kind that all South Africans are proud of.

During the recent public hearing by SCOPA at parliamentary village, the department was praised for the 19 awards it received in the last two years that culminated to clean audits two years in a row. This was according to Auditor General and SCOPA. The department was praised for its detailed and progressive responses. It's all thanks to the MEC, HoD, Executive Management and all staff members.

Our relationship with Limpopo traditional leaders and the Portfolio Committee on Local Government and Housing is cordial and very progressive. It is the kind of a relationship that is characterised by mutual respect and understanding of roles and responsibilities.

As you all know that MEC Soviet Lekganyane has been called to serve in Limpopo ANC as Provincial Secretary. Let me take this opportunity to wish former MEC Soviet Lekganyane good luck in his new endeavours. The African National Congress has spoken and has expressed its vote of confidence in him. Who are we to defy? Let me also take this opportunity to congratulate our newly appointed MEC for CoGHSTA Mr Clifford Motsepe. We wish him all the very best in his new responsibilities.

CoGHSTA NEWS TEAM

Publisher:
CoGHSTA

Editor-in-Chief:
Tseng Diale

Editor:
Sam Makondo

Journalists:
Rirhandzu Nkobyane
Mukondi Tshifura
Jimmy Malebati

Photographers:
CoGHSTA Team

Layout & Design
Clement Makwana

YOU CAME, YOU CONQUERED



Very proud....Executive management at the MEC'S FAREWELL

By Sam Makondo

Polokwane- Speaker after speaker described former Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs MEC Soviet Lekganyane who joined the department with a clear cut mission and vision hence his outstanding performance in the three years in charge. Bidding farewell to the former MEC at a farewell function organised by his department, various speakers expressed a plethora of views with regard to Lekganyane's leadership style. Common to the messages was that Lekganyane is a visionary leader and a man of integrity through and through. Lekganyane is leaving the department which he joined in 2009 to take up the full time responsibilities of Limpopo ANC Provincial Secretary at Frans Mohlala House in Polokwane.

SALGA in their good bye message said the Lekganyane was never aloof in his

interactions with councillors and as such he will remain an ally to local government. "You have set the bar very high and you will be remembered for always encouraging councillors to study and improve themselves academically. We are happy that the ANC is in good hands"

Integrated Sustainable Human Settlements Senior General Manager Z MKhize applauded the former MEC for the contribution he made to human settlements and for having enriched the lives of so many people. "You supported with interest and passion the programmes of human settlements. You are passionate about people who work for government but with no houses. You led from the front and no problem was too big for you. Your leadership gave us energy to do our very best", she said adding humbleness, respect, decisive and passionate as some of the outstanding qualities Lekganyane exuded in his job.

The department received clean audits during Lekganyane's time and the Chief Financial Officer of the department who also gave a message attributes that to Lekganyane's listening skills. "He was able to listen and take advice. A very decisive and considerate MEC," said Khunou.

Senior General Manager for Shared Services Nnana described the MEC as an empowerer having empowered 50% of departmental staff in terms of promotions. Likening him to Joshua in the Bible, she said he was good on advice and big on emotional intelligence and his passion for traditional leaders remains unparalleled.

Nape Nchabeleng, Senior General Manager, Local Governance praised Lekganyane for having transformed the department into an instrument of excellence. "You are a dynamic and a visionary leader. You taught us appropriate skills to be the best", appreciated Nchabeleng.

SABC said because of MEC Lekganyane, the provincial broadcasting corporation had developed a special partnership with the department aimed at making a difference in Limpopo. "You always bring greatness and invoke a sense of pride. Always know that the SABC is here to serve and unite", He said.

Also represented was Capricorn FM and its CEO Siphwe Mdlalose said the work of the former MEC speaks for itself. "I have learnt a lot from him. We worked together to uplift the poor. He taught me humility. He respected everyone. He also taught me that leadership is not about power, but about serving people", said Mdlalose adding that Lekganyane is a man of passion who inspired many people to dream and do more.

NHBRC Provincial Manager, Ms Tshabalala N described Lekganyane as the man who always held people by the hand. "You always encourage people to do the province proud. You are leaving our name clean as you found it", said Tshabalala

Chairperson of the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders Kgoshi Makgeru wished the MEC well in his new responsibilities and called on the MEC to continue to put the interest of traditional leaders as a priority.

Unions in the department Nehawu and Psa said they still wanted more engagement with the MEC. "We had space to exercise our rights during his time", said union representatives.

Former Head of Department and the newly appointed CoGHSTA MEC Clifford Motsepe said the department can speak with pride about Lekganyane's legacy. "You are leaving a very stable department, a department that is an envy to the Republic", said the former HoD. He described the former MEC as a man of integrity, vision, a master of team work, a decisive decision maker and a man who value relationships.

Roads and Transport MEC Pinky Kekana said Lekganyane distinguished himself as an outstanding leader and a strategist.



Head of Department(at the time) Clifford Motsepe presenting a token of appreciation to former CoGHSTA MEC Soviets Lekganyane



Shabba and Simphiwe Mdlalose of Capricorn FM at the farewell function of former MEC Lekganyane.

"You made people believe that there is a better tomorrow", Kekana said about her colleague and friend.

In response the former MEC said he worked with very dependable people in the department from the Head of Department down to the general worker. Seen as a young person who was given a huge task of leading such a huge department the MEC said: "You do not need to be very old to change and transform a department into viable and vibrant service delivery machinery. We

need people with integrity in whatever they do" He also said he worked well with traditional leaders, municipalities and the private sector in Limpopo. "Let us continue to work together to confront all the challenges our people face. I will give the necessary support from the podium of the ANC", assured Lekganyane who also encouraged people to study in order to make meaningful contribution to the running of Limpopo government.

COGHSTA – LIMPOPO'S BEST



Bravo.....CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane winning the best department award, with him is runner up winner MEC Dipuo Letsatsi-Duba of Agriculture.

By Sam Makondo

Polokwane – The 10th anniversary of the Limpopo Premier Service Excellence Awards has again seen the department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs voted the Best Performing Department in the province. This is for the third time in three years that the department outperformed ten other provincial departments. The Department successfully defended its back to back wins and for that feat it was rewarded handsomely with a platinum certificate and platinum trophy. The runner up was the Department of Agriculture which walked away with a Gold Certificate. The awards ceremony, held at Polokwane's Jack Botes Hall recently was headlined by Premier Cassel Mathale, MECs, Mayors, Municipal Managers, Speakers, Heads of Departments and the business community.

The department's Human Resource

Planning also received a third position award in the Best Innovative Team of the year category. This was solely for a team or institution that has developed new and creative approach or ideas in rendering service delivery in the province. This 10th edition of the Premier Service Excellence was sponsored by a mining company, CSR-Xstrata Alloys. Held annually the awards seek to encourage service excellence by recognising those that go an extra mile to improve service delivery.

Limpopo Premier Cassel Mathale in his short and to the point address said people of Limpopo should visit and leave government service points happy and



Winner - Team CoGHSTA remain unbeatable

satisfied with the kind of service rendered to them. "We are committed to the promise of building a transparent, responsive and responsible administration that has the capacity to lead this province and improve the living standard of our people", said the premier adding that Limpopo shines today because of the dedication and commitment of the civil servants on the mandate to create a better life for all.

CoGHSTA HOST HUMAN SETTLEMENTS INDABA



Take a lead.....CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane with other dignitaries at the Human Settlement indaba in Lephalale

By Jimmy Malebati

Lephalale - Since the dawn of democracy in 1994, the South African government built more than three million houses. National housing backlog is at 2.1 million while Limpopo stand at 176 647. The South African Constitution states that everyone has the right to have access to adequate housing. Government has introduced various initiatives to build decent shelter. The National Minister of Human Settlements, Tokyo Sexwale recently launched the “Each One Settle One” campaign at the Johannesburg Stock Exchange in an effort to address housing backlog. Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements, and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) in Limpopo also had a breakfast launch of the “Each-One-Settle-One”. The MEC of CoGHSTA Soviet Lekganyane calls on individuals and business people to land a hand in donating building materials and financial pledges in building houses for the poor. CoGHSTA in conjunction with the National Department of Human Settlements, the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) and its stakeholders hosted a two days Human Settlements Indaba late last



Fresh ideas.....Limpopo youth also took part in the Human Settlement indaba.

year at Mogol club, Lephalale municipality. The Indaba served as a platform for various stakeholders including youth in the housing sector to come together to explore more creative ways of speeding up the delivery of houses to the needy, with particular focus on accelerating the delivery of integrated and sustainable human settlements. The Premier of Limpopo gave opening speech to the Indaba. “We are now creating integrated community settlements encompassing of essential facilities and services such as schools, health care facilities, churches, and most

significantly commercial and industrial areas which are located within a reasonable distance from residential areas” said Premier Cassel Mathale.

He said government devoted much energy and resources to the building of houses for our people whilst at the same time reducing the outstanding backlogs. Premier Mathale said that the developed Human Settlement Vision 2030 serves as a guiding document in exterminating how government will provide shelter for the homeless people.

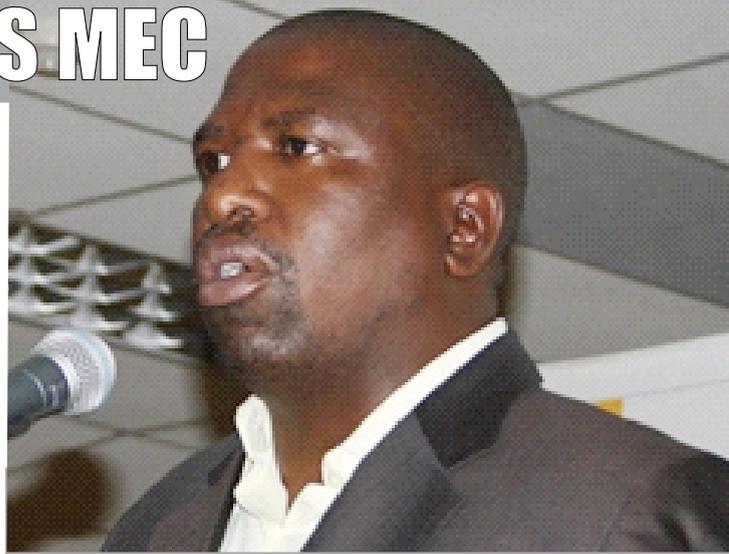
SETTLE SOMEONE- CALLS MEC

By Sam Makondo

Polokwane – “As government with its limited resources, we cannot do it alone” Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs Soviet Lekganyane said these words making an appeal of appeals to donors and private sector to help government reduce the housing backlog. Lekganyane was speaking at the launch of Each-One-Settle-One campaign at Polokwane’s Bolivia Lodge recently. Following the successful launch of the national campaign by the Minister of Human Settlements Tokyo Sexwale, the MEC had to also at a provincial level lobby stakeholders to rally behind this campaign that seeks to mobilise South Africans, from big listed and non-listed companies to private citizens to assist Human Settlement

department in addressing housing backlogs estimated to be at 2.1million nationwide.

The launch was attended by local business men and women. Encouraging business people to come to the party, the MEC said no contribution is too big or too small and believes every gesture will contribute to one bottom line, building houses for the poorest of the poor in Limpopo. He added that government has delivered housing units to millions of people but many people still need houses. “Let us make a contribution and take this initiative to a new level. Let us figure out ways on how best our people can be housed in the best habitable conditions,” he said adding that the campaign is not only about building houses but about development and empowering communities as they will be involved in the building of houses.



Collective responsibility.....CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane addressing business people at the Launch of each- one-settle-one campaign.



In attendance.....Some of the business people at the launch of Each-One-Settle-One at Bolivia Lodge.

HDA FAST TRACK HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Polokwane -The Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) has partnered with the Housing Development Agency to amongst other things ensure accelerate delivery of sustainable human settlements in Limpopo Province.

The idea to establish the Agency was taken during the historic conference of the ruling party in Polokwane, Limpopo in 2007. The primary mandate of the Agency is to assist provincial human settlements departments and municipalities on land assembly matters for human settlements and project management relating to human settlements programmes and projects.

The Agency exists merely to supplement



Caption: Sitting in front in the photo is the Departmental HOD, Clifford Motsepe, the Senior General Manager for Human Settlements, Zesuliwe Mkhize and the CEO of the HDA, Taffy Adler. The Limpopo HDA team consists of Town Planners, GIS Technician, Engineers and Specialists in Informal Settlements Upgrading.

the current capacities in organs of state. The Department has concluded a Medium Term Operational Plan with the Agency which has seen the Agency recruiting young professionals predominantly from the province to provide services relating amongst other things to land geospatial services, planning, informal settlements upgrading and technical project implementation services on a medium term basis to the Department.

The HDA team in Limpopo will therefore ensure that appropriately located land for human settlements is identified within the province, that such is acquired, planned and also ensure working in collaboration with municipalities in the province, that bulk services are available or installed. The team will also project manage the implementation of the Bendor Extension 100 flagship project of the Department.

Source: www.thehda.co.za

ANGLO RESPONDS TO GOVERNMENT'S CALL

By Jimmy Malebati

Northam – 28 November 2011 marked the official opening of the 310 houses built at Northam Ext 6 by Minister of Human Settlements Tokyo Sexwale. The houses were built by Anglo American Platinum Mine for its employees.

This follows the National Ministry of Human Settlements, Tokyo Sexwale's launch of Each-One-Settle-One campaign with the tenacity of lobbying and mobilize stakeholders, private sectors institutions, donor agencies and ordinary citizens to help government reduce housing backlog. This was launched in front of 200 listed companies on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

The Limpopo MEC for Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Soviet Lekganyane also called on business and individuals to lend a hand in building houses for the province's poor.

Anglo American Platinum Mine which is operating in Northam Thabazimbi in Limpopo and North-West provinces has pledged to build 20000 houses for its employees over a period of ten years. Of the 20000 houses, Limpopo will get 8000 while North-West will get 12000 units.

Minster Sexwale was accompanied by MEC Lekganyane on behalf of the Premier of Limpopo, Mayor of Thabazimbi municipality Patricia Mosito and the Chief Executive Officer of Anglo American Platinum Neville Nicolau officially handed over four symbolic houses as part of the 310 to be built at Northam Ext 6.

Four show houses (50m², 60m², 66m² and 70m²) were built as a symbol of the 310 units to be constructed. Limpopo CoGHSTA also built 1111 houses at Northam in 1997 and 2002/3 fiscal year.



Habitable.....Some of the houses that Anglo Platinum has started building for their own employees.



On the mic.....CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane introducing the Minister who unveiled four houses built in partnership with Anglo Platinum.

The CEO of Anglo Plats Neville Nicolau said the houses have solar panel which support the COP17 Climate Change Conference held at Durban.

"Today we are launching a project. We must think beyond. We must have an artistic image of how Thabazimbi will look like in future", said MEC Lekganyane. He also said that there is a need to have statistics of how many trees are needed in this municipality in support of preserving the climate. He assured Anglo Plats that their conglomerate with Limpopo is solid

because the provincial government has direction.

Minister Sexwale said it is improper for someone to sleep in Sandton while his workers sleep in shacks. "Government cannot settle the housing backlog of 2.4 million alone. It will take 15-20 years to eradicate and provided the economy is doing well", said Minister Tokyo Sexwale. "Join us in the campaign Each-One-Settle-One we owe it to the people, they need houses", he said.

NEW WASTE WATER TREATMENT FOR NORTHAM



Pik and shovel.....at the site where the new plant will be constructed. (From left to right) CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane, Thabazimbi Mayor Cllr Mosito, Human Settlements Minister Tokyo Sexwale and Anglo Platinum CEO Neville Nicolau at the sod turning ceremony.

By Sam Makondo

Northam – The Thabazimbi Local Municipality has launched the construction of 5 Mega Litres waste water treatment in Northam Extension 6. This multi-million project will service the entire population of Northam town. The sod turning ceremony to get the construction of this project underway was officially conducted by the National Minister of Human Settlements Tokyo Sexwale, CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane and the Thabazimbi Mayor Councillor Mosito.

Director of Infrastructure, Thabazimbi Municipality Booyesen Gopolong said the new plant will replace the current oxidation ponds which are apparently operating beyond their design capacity. He added that Northam extension 6, 2 5 and 7 amongst other developments will be



Giving the lowdown..... Director of Infrastructure, Thabazimbi Municipality Booyesen Gopolong explaining to the dignitaries more about the new plant to be constructed.

connected to the sewage plant by July 2012. The lifespan of the sewage plant is said to be up to 2027. The project is funded by the Thabazimbi Local Municipality through its municipal infrastructure grant with the actual construction cost of 120million. The

project will cater for the poor households which are by far the largest beneficiaries and it is implemented in line with the Each-One-Settle-One concept developed by the department of Human Settlements.

FETAKGOMO-TEMPLATE FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE



Deserving.....Former CoGHSTA Head of Department and newly appointed MEC Clifford Motsepe congratulating Fetakgomo municipality for their financial discipline that brought them another clean audit award

By Sam Makondo

Fetakgomo – Fetakgomo local municipality in the Sekhukhune district, Limpopo is fast becoming a centre and template for good governance, clean administration and sound financial management. This is according to the national Auditor-General Terrence Nombembe during his recent visit to the municipality. He was in this part of the country to congratulate once more the management of the municipality for sustaining and maintaining the clean audit two years running.

Nombembe, who was accompanied by former CoGHSTA HoD Clifford Motsepe and the Provincial Auditor General said it was exciting and impressive to visit the municipality for all the good reasons. He applauded the municipality for the manner in which the team sustained the excellence. “Staying on top is very difficult. You are the centre of excellence when it comes to financial discipline. It can only happen this way if you want it to happen this way. You have developed a commitment to do the right things and do them consistently”, said Nombembe to the loud applause of those in attendance, mostly councillors, CoGHSTA officials and



Well done.....Auditor General Terrence Nombembe about to present an award to Mayor of Fetakgomo municipality for achieving a clean audit.

that of the municipality. Nombembe continued in his message and said: “We take this achievement as significant for the municipality, district and the province”.

He called on the municipality to open doors to other municipalities who are struggling to achieve clean audits year in and year out. Former CoGHSTA Head of Department and newly appointed MEC Clifford Motsepe congratulated the municipality. “It is worth celebrating and

we wish other municipalities can emulate the good work done at this municipality”, he said pointing out non-adherence to good governance as a challenge that hinders other municipalities from achieving clean audits. The clean audit mayor of Fetakgomo Kuki Sefala said her municipality is going to sustain the achievement for many years to come. “We have the will to be a clean municipality. It can be done again,” she said.

LIMPOPO MUNICIPALITY SUSTAINS CLEAN AUDIT

By Lesiba Moeng

Sekhukhune-On the 20 February 2011 Fetakgomo local municipality under Sekhukhune District Municipality in Limpopo received a consecutive award which marks a clean audit for Financial 2010-2011 and 2009-2010 financial years, which also include awards from the SA Local Government Association (SALGA) and from the Institute for Municipal Finance Officers.

In his address newly appointed MEC Clifford Motsepe, and former Head of Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs expressed his mouthpiece as “of ecstasy as such occurrences are a signal of commitment, interdependence and cohesion amongst personnel of Fetakgomo municipality as most municipalities struggle to achieve such apex credentials”, where he even congratulated Mayor Sefala and her administration for a sterling job. Auditor General Terrence Nombembe outlined the importance of reliability and credibility as they go along with transparency as it is a root stem of clean audit.

In conclusion Sefala indicated that she sings plaudits to Fetakgomo municipality today, “We do so hoping that the foundation that has been laid will be built upon to sustain the legacy into the future. Fetakgomo Local Municipality has indeed demonstrated that it is not one's history that determines one's destiny, but it's his current attitude and deeds”. said the Fetakgomo Mayor.



Good job.....Auditor General Terrence Nombembe handing over a clean audit award to the Fetakgomo Mayor Kuki Sefala



Team work.....Fetakgomo municipality workforce celebrating after receiving the clean audit award

EXCO VISIT MARULENG FLOODS VICTIMS



We feel your pain..... Limpopo Premier Cassel Mathale and the Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality Joshua Matlou visited the flood affected victims at Molalane village, Maruleng municipality

By Jimmy Malebati

Hoedspruit - On the 1st February 2012, the Limpopo Executive Council (EXCO) held its first monthly scheduled meeting at Maruleng Municipality. The meeting came at a time when the Mopani District experienced heavy rain that flooded mostly areas around Maruleng local municipality early January. This was due to Dando cyclone that brought heavy rains in parts of Mpumalanga and Limpopo provinces. EXCO received a preliminary report by the Mopani district municipality on the damages made by the floods in Mopani district municipality in general and at Maruleng local municipality in particular.

The Maruleng council has since declared the municipality a disaster area. The same resolution has been endorsed by the Mopani District and forwarded to Provincial Disaster Management Center under CoGHSTA as per Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002.

The report revealed, among others, that

water gushed out from the dams which were full beyond their capacity and ravaged installations such as houses, farms, roads, bridges, water and electricity infrastructure in their trail of destruction. Added to this, rural communities and farmers in affected areas are still counting their losses which are estimated to be over 250 million rand.

These heavy rains have affected 220 household in Maruleng. Institution such as the Red Cross, SASSA, CoGHSTA, and Gift of the Givers responded to the plight of the affected families with food parcels, blankets, hygiene packs. The Jacaranda RMFM made a huge donation of bottled water to the community resident in the Hoedspruit town. Since the floods, water in the town was not drinkable and this could cause water born diseases to human lives

EXCO welcomed relief efforts such as, rescue operations, distribution of food parcels and tents by the Joint Operation Teams in a quest to alleviate the dire

straits of people living in affected areas.

EXCO adjourned its meeting to visit affected areas to obtain first hand information about the experiences that people went through during the floods. Government made a commitment to rebuild some of the houses of people who are badly affected by the floods before the end of the current financial year. Elaborate plans by the Mopani district municipality, the Limpopo provincial government and the South African national government are underway to deal comprehensively with the aftermath of the floods.

The Executive Mayor of Mopani Joshua Matlou has announced that the overall cost caused by the flood amounts to R259 million. The amount covers Roads and Transport, Municipal Infrastructure, Tourism, Municipal Water provision, houses, Agricultural and DWA Oliphants. Matlou said the figure has been presented to Provincial and National government for releasing of funds as per Disaster Management Act.

A PLACE TO CALL HOME



Housing for all.....Mayor Mahosi of Thulamela Municipality opening a house at Lwamondo village with CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane looking on.

Tshepho Langa

Thohoyandou-Ntshengedzeni Talelani of Ngwenani ya Themeli village outside Thohoyandou has been living in a mud house for quite some time. Life has not been easy for Talelani (68) who has to use the social grant he receives from the government to look after his two wives and seven children.

Another resident who finds himself in a same situation is Johannes Mudau. The 86 year old has been living in a dilapidated structure. Mudau's wife passed away a long time ago and he has been staying alone since his two daughters got married.

The two residents could not believe it when the MEC for Corporative

Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Soviet Lekganyane handed them keys to their new and fully furnished three bedroom houses respectively during a special ceremony held at Ngwenani ya Themeli. The handing over of these two houses is part of the Celebrity Build a House Campaign. The campaign, a partnership between CoGHSTA and SABC's Limpopo region aims to change the lives of underprivileged villagers in the province. The initiative is part of the national wide " Media Build" project, which also seeks to alleviate poverty and strengthen the public, private partnership where members of the media fraternity together with officials of the national and provincial departments of Human Settlements build houses for selected

beneficiaries.

Talelani who is wheelchair bound was at a loss for words. "I really do not know what to say, this is truly a dream come true. Now I finally have a place I can call home," he said. Talelani also thanked the Department, SABC and Rirothe Construction for ensuring that both families have a proper accommodation. Speaking during the ceremony, Lekganyane advised that traditional leaders and the members of the community should lend a hand to help those who are underprivileged in their nearby communities. "We as government, we will continue to provide necessary facilities to the people of Limpopo and we will do that for years to come. We urge the community members and the authorities to help us fight poverty by helping those in need".

ROOF OVER THE HEAD FOR TWO MORE FAMILIES

By Tshepo Langa

Ga- Ratjeke - MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Soviet Lekganyane in partnership with SABC rescued two more needy families that lived in conditions not habitable to human beings. This follows the handing over of two fully furnished houses to the destitute families of Mr Masia and Ms Masena at Ga-Ratjeke Village in the Greater Letaba Municipality recently.

This was the moment of happiness for the two families as they will now enjoy their new quality living space. "I was never comfortable whilst at work knowing that my children were not safe in that old dilapidated house. The Almighty God has answered my prayers through the Human Settlements department and the SABC. My children will be safe at home in my new beautiful house. I'd like to thank everybody who contributed to the building of this house, but most of all I would like to thank the CoGHSTA department for making life easier for me and my family." cried with joy Selina Mafina when the MEC officially handed her keys to her new house.

The houses these families lived in, were far from being humanly habitable, hence the response from the two organizations to their plight. This is a true sign of the union that proves that indeed, working together; more can be achieved in responding to the needs of the community. It is against this backdrop that CoGHSTA department and the SABC partnered and took a stand against these unacceptable conditions.

CoGHSTA MEC, in his address called on traditional leaders, religious leaders and councilors to continue to identify families that live in the poorest of conditions in the community. "Let us know about their living conditions. Government and business can always work out something to the benefit of the poorest of the poor", he said.



Before



After intervention



CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane opening a house.



MEC for CoGHSTA Soviet Lekganyane handing over key to a beneficiary.

MEC COMMITS TO WORKING WITH TRADITIONAL LEADERS



You play a huge role.....CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane addressing traditional leaders of Limpopo in Phalaborwa

By Sam Makondo

Phalaborwa – The commitment by CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane to work closely with traditional leaders will go a long way in amplifying and strengthening a much needed relationship that will benefit communities in the province. Service delivery remains a challenge and Lekganyane firmly believes traditional leaders are key to resolving the challenge in a way that will see services taken to all the people in the far flung area of the province. Lekganyane recently met with all the traditional leaders of Limpopo in Phalaborwa. Hans Merensky to specifically give them an audience on traditional leadership challenges plaguing their respective communities.

He said the move by his department to change the name from Local Government and Housing to Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional was an indication of commitment to bring traditional closer to where the action is. "You remain very central and an important part of government. We should pursue a common goal and agenda. At the centre of it all are the people who we must serve with

diligence and pride. We need each other in order to provide for the poorest of the poor. We remain solution providers to their daily dire straits", said the MEC adding the importance of putting differences aside when the plight of community members is at stake.

He called on traditional leaders to develop a culture of discussing issues affecting traditional leaders at length before they approach executive council for intervention. He also in the same breath appealed for impeccable conduct from members of royal families as communities look up to them as template for good behaviour and respect.

Traditional leaders described the meeting as a long overdue one and applauded the MEC for taking them on board on issues that affect them directly and those that hamper service delivery in communities. They said that the meeting was an eye opener and gave them an opportunity to highlight challenges and how they wish to contribute by working with government to address problems for the benefit of communities.

Some of the thorny issues discussed at the meeting include code of conduct for



We want to play a role.....Some of the traditional leaders at a meeting called by CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane.



Together we stand.....Traditional leaders appreciated the meeting between them and CoGHSTA MEC Soviet and made valuable inputs

traditional leaders, revising regulation governing initiation schools, replacement of indunas, taverns taking over communities, officials of the department not giving sufficient support, rehabilitation of offices of traditional leaders, office space for traditional leaders and transport for traditional leaders.

EDUCATION IS A COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY - MEC

By Sam Makondo

Phokoane – CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane has called on teachers to engage parents and other community formations to take the education of their children seriously. The MEC addressed teachers and learners respectively as part of the province's "Go Back to School Campaign". He visited two schools, Moreko high school which achieved 100% pass rate in matric and Mokgeretli which managed 18%, in the Phokoane area, Sekhukhune district. In Mopani, he visited Risinga High school in Giyani Township. Risinga got 93.6% matric pass rate. He also visited ST Bedes High school, Capricorn district, which achieved 99%. Addressing at these respective schools, the MEC made it very clear to learners that education comes before everything else.

He had an opportunity to speak to teachers first to understand the material conditions under which teachers work and teach learners. It was in his meetings with teachers where he appealed to them to all the times speak to parents about the conduct of learners, good or bad. "Do not mince words, tell parents what their children do and do not do. They must take active interest in the education of their children", he said.

In his address to learners, he encouraged learners to dream big by following careers are most wanted in the province and the country at large. "This province needs skilled people and those skills should come from you and nowhere else", said



Work very hard.....Learners of the Moreko High School after getting words of encouragement from CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane.



Aim very high.....Risinga High school learners listening to CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane during the "Go Back To School Campaign" in Giyani.

the MEC adding that jobs are advertised almost every week in newspapers but there are no qualified people to contest some of these jobs. He told learners to be obedient in class during lessons and to show respect to teachers. "It is not being clever when you disrespect your teachers. You are rendering yourself and your future

a serious disservice with serious adverse consequences later on. Teachers are here to help you unleash your hidden potential and talent", indicated the MEC who added as his parting shot that the battle against poverty will not be won without proper education.

INITIATION CONFERENCE, A RESOUNDING SUCCESS



Custodians.....Some of the Senior Traditional Leaders taking part in the initiation school conference in Polokwane.

By Sam Makondo

Polokwane – Following the successful running of the 2011 initiation school in Limpopo, the department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs held a two day post initiation school conference. Held at Polokwane’s Bolivia Lodge, the conference saw over 86 senior traditional leaders taking part and discussing best ways possible in ensuring the preservation of this ancient practice. Officially opening the conference, the MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs Soviet Lekganyane told the conference that the province was doing well in the running of initiation schools but was quick to add that it is not enough. He called on the conference to find ways of better preserving the cultural practice and also challenged the delegates to craft strategies for better management of these schools. “It is a comprehensive program. The rituals that go with initiation schools are many and complicated. It must be understood properly”, said the MEC.

The conference was also attended by strategic stakeholders and they included the Department of Health, South African Police Service, and Department of Education. The Police service come in handy in cases where there are illegal initiation school that are run without proper licences that are issued by the

Department of CoGHSTA. The department of Health on the other hand is on board to ensure that initiates undergo an intensive medical examination before admission to an initiation school. The National House of Traditional Leaders and the Eastern Cape House of Traditional Leaders also graced the conference.

On the challenge of staging illegal schools, the conference resolved that a minimum penalty of 20 000 should be payable and that applications for initiation schools should be made by a recognised Senior Traditional Leader. The conference also recommended an admission fee of between 800 and 1000 for male initiates with female initiates paying between 600 and 800. Another thorny issue discussed at the conference was the appointment of traditional surgeons. It was resolved that traditional surgeons should produce certificates of fitness and they should not be the kind that abuse drugs and alcohol. It was also agreed that the traditional leader should satisfy themselves that such a surgeon has sound knowledge of initiation schools rituals. Death at initiation schools was also discussed at length and it was agreed that all initiates should be checked by medical practitioners before admission. Those with chronic diseases should be allowed to take along their medication and health practitioner should be allowed to visit schools to conduct examination on initiates on a regular basis.



Find ways.....CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane officially opening the initiation school conference.



National perspective..... Sam Khandlela represented the National House of Traditional Leaders at the conference

HOUSING ASSOCIATION IN PLACE



The Polokwane Housing Association in place and ready to serve

By Sam Makondo

Polokwane – The Polokwane Housing Association board is officially in operation and has the support of the Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs MEC Soviet Lekganyane. Meeting the board members for the first time after taking the reigns, MEC Lekganyane expressed his full confidence in the newly appointed members of the board that will manage and administer rentals in the city of Polokwane. Addressing board members at Peter Mokabe recently, The MEC said what is pleasing about the members is their individual credentials that spreads across all sorts of disciplines. “These members have the skills to discharge their duties. There is capacity to manage all rental related issues”,

Lekganyane said. The skills of the members range from town planning, human resource, law, engineering to property management and rentals.

At the time of introducing the members to CoGHSTAMEC by the Executive Mayor of Polokwane Freddy Greaver, the members had already done their induction training to enable them to perform their duties with diligence and efficiency. It will further assist members to understand the roles and responsibilities associated with the Polokwane Housing Association. They had also as a sign of commitment and hitting the ground running gone for their strategic planning session where an in-depth plan aimed at tackling rental and tenant challenges was crafted.

Chairman of the board Ntsoaki Baloyi,

who has impeccable skills in Town Planning committed the board to accountable administration and good governance. “We are not lacking in terms of experience as we come from different backgrounds. We will surely complement each other. The municipality has made a very good choice,” said Baloyi adding that her charges are ready to turn the rental situation in Polokwane around. She acknowledged that the challenges experienced by tenants were real and should never be taken for granted. She pointed some of the challenges as structural defects and uncleanness of rental villages. “These problems should be addressed as soon as possible. Tenants deserve better living conditions at all times,” she said.

BOARD INTRODUCED TO TENANTS



Renting.....The Ga-Rena residents meeting the new board that will be in charge of all their rental challenges

By Sam Makondo

Ga-Rena – Following the introduction of the Polokwane Housing Association members to the MEC for the Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs Soviet Lekganyane by the Executive Mayor Freddy Greaver, the Ga-Rena residents had the opportunity meet the board. The meeting which took place right at the premises of Ga-Rena Rental village was led by CoGHSTA MEC and Polokwane mayor. The newly appointed board will among other things look into the welfare of the Ga-rena rental village from ensuring that the place is run profitably and in a sustainable manner to making it the most habitable village in Polokwane. Polokwane Mayor Freddy Greaver said at this meeting that the department of CoGHSTA and Polokwane municipality have visited the residents to specifically register progress in as far as the establishment of the board is concerned. “You need to know moving forward, who you will be dealing with. You also need to know and be aware which doors to knock on when you experience rental and other related problems. These

members exist because there is you, the residents of this place”, said the Mayor to the loud applause of the residents.

Ntsoaki Baloyi, Chairperson of the board committed at the meeting to handle challenges as experienced by residents with courtesy and diligence. She asked the residents to work co-operatively with each and every member of the Housing Association by doing what is expected of them. “We will practice an open door policy for residents. Pay your rent and where there are problems talk to us in time,” said Baloyi.

Equally emphatic was CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane who also stressed communication of challenges to the board in time. “We give our commitment to work with you to resolve all problems”, he said. Lekganyane made this commitment against the background that residents had in the past raised concerns around unsatisfactory work done by the previous



Work with the board.....(From left to right) Chairperson of the Board Ntsoaki Baloyi, Polokwane Mayor Freddy Greaver and CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane addressing the residents of Ga-Rena Rental Village.

board. “The department and the municipality have played their parts. We now hand over the reigns to the board to run and administer things to the satisfaction of the residents”, he indicated. He went on to call on the residents to religiously pay their rent by virtue of being tenants. If you are failing to make your monthly payments, try and make arrangements with the Housing Association. Do not wait for them to start pursuing you. Paying rent is non-negotiable”, appealed the MEC.

MEC WELCOMES NEW CONTRACTORS



On contract.....Some of the new appointed contractors listening to what they have to do this financial year.

By Tshehla Katlego

Limpopo - The Provincial Department of Co-operative Governance Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs met with appointed housing contractors at Hensa Towers building early January 2012. The two day meeting was meant to honor and welcome the new contractors within the Department and also to bid farewell to the MEC of CoGHSTAMr Soviet Lekganyane. This follows the election of MEC Lekganyane as the Secretary of the African National Congress in the Province. MEC Soviet Lekganyane thanked the contractors for their support and for remaining in the housing programmes. He said because of their hard work CoGHSTA is ranked the best in the Province and Nationally.

Lekganyane said since 1994 government has reduced the construction of RDP houses due to economic complexity and the increase of production cost. He also

outlined that this fiscal year units will be reduced from 13 000 to 10 000, as last year they were reduced from 15 000 to 13 000.

“The number of contractors is also reduced to 57 this financial year due to economic difficulties”, he said. He said that the National Department of Human Settlements has also realized that the provision of houses is gradually becoming enough so in future the allocated money will focus on rectifying the shoddy work. MEC Lekganyane appealed to contractors with experience to support those newly appointed. He thanked the previous contractors for working with the department for the past 3 years in building and delivering quality houses for the people of Limpopo.

Mrs Rose Dikotla, the General Manager for Subsidy Admin, Cliams Management and Secretariat encouraged the contractors to work hard and to work together with their employees on site. Management also took the opportunity to



We want quality work.....
CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane addressing new contractors

apologize for not paying contractors during the festive season due to provincial issues. This is after National government took a decision to put five departments under administration, including the Provincial Treasury. Other departments under administration include Roads and Transport, Education, Health and Public Works.

WE LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE

By Sam Makondo

Tanda village – Limpopo Premier Cassel Mathale says his cabinet is always around to listen to what people want. He has called on the people of Tanda village, Musina Municipality in the Vhembe district municipality to always make an input on how the provincial government should deliver services. Premier Mathale was addressing the community of Tanda village, outside Musina during the first Government outreach in the year 2012.

Exco meets the people is a Limpopo government public participation programme that gets people on the ground talking about their service delivery challenges.

The Limpopo cabinet led by the premier collectively give the public an audience after visiting various service delivery points that range from schools, clinics to community project in the area. Various community formations representing the community were given an opportunity to make presentations about the things that the Limpopo cabinet must address speedily without any delay. The issues raised include ungraded roads, water shortages, site allocation, business opportunities, RDP houses, sporting



Listening.....A local councillor explaining the plight of one of the Tanda village resident who seriously need a house to Premier Cassel Mathale, CoGHSTA MEC Soviet Lekganyane with Executive Mayor of Vhembe Florence Dzombere and Mayor Musina municipality Carol Phiri looking on.



In attendance.....The Tanda Community came out in numbers during the Premier's outreach programme.

facilities and others.

The premier said: "We are to be shown the

way because we might think we are right only to find that we are getting it wrong completely".

MOTSEPE SCOOPS YET ANOTHER AWARD

Limpopo Head of Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Mr. Nkomotane Clifford Motsepe has scooped yet another awards; the Van Ryn's Black Business Quarterly (BBQ) magazine Awards 2011 for Public Sector Visionary category.

The winners were announced at the BBQ Van

Ryn's Awards gala dinner on Friday, 28 October 2011 at the Emperors Palace in Gauteng. The 10th anniversary of the Van Ryn's BBQ Awards this year aimed to highlight South Africa's past and present leaders in transformation and to pay tribute to the men and women who paved the way to economic transformation.



Administrative acumen, Mr Clifford Motsepe

GO WELL KGOMO!

POEM....BY ABE MOKOENA

I am CogHsta

I am the winning department in Limpopo

I am the first among equals

My mandate is to house the nation

My enemy is human poverty, squalor

Kgomo, you joined me in 2009 in May

You came, you conquered and you left me mouth wet

You came, you towered and you left for more growth

You came, you shone like a star and disappeared behind the mountains into the arms of the ANC as a Provincial Secretary

You soldiered like a reaper in the mieliefield who ploughs in the scorching midday heat, his sweat watering the powder dry ground

Within you burns a revolutionary flame which has been passed from generations unaccounted and its fierce fire is a

consistent reminder to your spirit to achieve more for the suffering masses of our land

Hence, you toiled like an ancient slave building a pyramid

You are a rock among stones

You are a giant among men

Now that you are gone

I am like a tree creaking in the wind

Now that you are gone

I am like a sheet of the twisted tin shack of Alex trembling in the storm

I am like a broken branch dancing in a shrill sad protest

You are the voice crying at the dawn of a new day

You are the morning bird that sings even when the dawn is still dark

Go well Kgomo, your footprints will always enjoy my delightful eye

Go well wonderful word warrior, you have conquered this continent with your semi-automatic tongue

The civil service will serve with civility as we continue to drum the earth with our soiled boots and growl incantations while providing quality services.

I will watch you while sitting down on this stoep, my arms folded in my lap, watching your progress in the universe of humanity, where old myths always live because they are allowed to die.

Go well Kgomo, your legacy will sing forever.