

Department of Local Government and Housing

Newsletter

August 2006 Issue

Special Edition:

**August is
Women's
Month!**

**N2
Gateway
Launch**

**“We in local government
are sitting at the core face
of service delivery.”**

**Deputy President:
Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka,
23 Aug 2006**



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Department of
Local Government
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Western Cape

First and foremost apologies for publishing this month's edition of our departmental newsletter late. There's been lots of activities that have been going on in the department and believe it or not, at some stage, the Communication Team has been plagued by a number of team members that had to be booked off sick. This edition is dedicated to the fairer sex. We salute you mothers, sisters, aunts, grandmother, wives, and partners during this month of Women. Without you, where will society be?

Wathinta abafazi wathinta imbokodo (You strike a woman - you strike a rock). How true this statement is and in our beloved country South Africa, we have ensured that women take a center stage in reshaping our country to a prosperous place to live in.

This year's national theme is: AGE OF HOPE: Through struggle to freedom. Various National and Provincial Governments in the country have organized a host of activities heightening the role of Women in our country. Significant inroads have been made in the emancipation of women in South Africa. About 43 % of Cabinet is made up of women, this include Ministers and Deputy Ministers. Four of the 9 provinces are headed by females Premiers, (Eastern Cape, Northern Cape, Free State and North West). We also boast of having 3 of the 5 Metropolitan Municipalities headed by women (City of Cape Town, Nelson Mandela Bay and City of Tshwane). These are crucial milestones, however there is a long way to go, but as a country we will get there, hopefully sooner rather than later.

Our department hosted a 2-day Women in Local Government Conference at the City's ICC on the 23-24 August 2006, where the Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa, Ms. Phumzile Mlabo-Ngcuka gave a keynote address. The gathering was attended by Women councillors, Women N.G.O's, C.B.O's. Addressing delegates at the Conference, Deputy President Mlabo-Ngcuka said, "Civil servants at municipalities are at the core front of service delivery representing the institution of Government to the public. We must all strive to achieve more of what the women of 1956 achieved. They changed the course of South Africa's history when they marched to the Union Buildings to protest against the pass laws. The way we do our work and conduct ourselves, it has to be destiny changing for our children's children. Fifty years ago, about 27 000 women change our course of history to enjoy the freedom we enjoy today. We also have to play our part to do the same for future generations".

The world wouldn't be a better place without women. Government has ensured that women are recognized and are at the forefront in the decision making processes. As we celebrate Women's Month, let us embrace the spirit of the mothers, aunts, grandmothers and wives that shaped our destiny in 1956. Let that spirit carry us forward in the struggle to emancipate our women, thus making not only the Western Cape Province, but the entire country as a true HOME FOR ALL.



Xolani Luthuli
from the editorial team

Cover Page:

"We in local government are sitting at the core face of service delivery. The way we conduct ourselves must be destiny changing like the women of 1956"

**Deputy President:
Phumzile Mlabo-
Ngcuka, 23 Aug 2006**

My DESTINY is to:

- Leave both a Personal and collective LEGACY
- EXCEL in whatever I do
- Stay HEALTHY, manage my stress
- Laugh at myself, don't take myself too serious
- Make my home a site for gender equity
- LIFT as I RISE, invest in others

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Letters from Staff

Getting There

Hi Jacques

I just read the July DLGH newsletter it's getting better and better all the time! Please forward my congratulations to all who were responsible.

On a minor note: I'm not very photogenic and was very pleased to see a decent picture of me in the newsletter thank you, and please use it in future and delete all other pictures on file!!!

Warm regards,
Hildegarde Fast

Our Condolences

Mr Basil Lamohr, Charlotte Lamohr's husband passed away on 10 August 2006. We would like to give our condolences to her and the family

Kind regards,

The Editorial Team

● Please note that letters will be edited grammatically without any change to the content.

We'd like to hear from you!

Please forward any queries and letters to lghnews@pgwc.gov.za or contact us at tel: 021 483 2870, fax: 021 483 2010



Women's Month Special



It's women's month and the topic is shifting to women and their importance, achievement and so on. On this occasion we decided to ask various colleagues what they felt was most amazing about women. What was it about them that they are favourite subjects of poets and men have laid down lives for them? From emotional and serious to heartfelt and wacky. Here are the answers the males came up with

Acting together with Women will ensure their emancipation

by Thando Wababa
(Researcher in the Office of the MEC)

On the 9th of August 1956 women have marched to Union Buildings in Pretoria for all of us to have the kind of a country that we so much enjoy, today. This year we celebrate 50 years of this historic march, which is one of the important milestones to a democratic South Africa.

We got the democratic breakthrough in 1994, thanks to 1956 women, but the question that lingers is what have we done to thank all women in a more meaningful and dignified manner. While attempting to answer this question it should be stated that since that massive march of 50 years ago, South African women never looked back, they continued with their struggle to free themselves from triple oppression. They have a number of achievements that they can pride themselves of.

One of the central achievements of women in the first 12 years of the democratic breakthrough was the adoption of the country's new constitution in 1996, and its emphasis on the right to equality. This has been strengthened by laws like The Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act, which make provision, among other things for Equality Courts to deal with charges of unfair discrimination, including on the basis of Gender.

The position of women in the workplace has also been significantly improved. The Labour Relations Act of 1995, extended to cover the public service in 1996, states that "no one may be discriminated against on the basis of family responsibility, marital status or sexual orientation. The Act also now covers vulnerable sectors, including domestic workers. Employment Equity legislation aims to increase the representation of women in decision making positions in both the public and the private sector.

Women also have improved access to housing. The Housing Act of 1997 promotes the active participation of women in the housing and creates opportunities for women to participate in the industry by granting them bridging finance. One of the aims of the national housing programme is the provision of security of tenure.

MEC for Local Government and Housing in the Western Cape Mr Qubudile Richard Dyantyi is giving as much support as possible to People's Housing Process (PHP).

In essence this is to act together with women. The overwhelming number of those involved and benefiting from the PHP are women. The commitment of the government is to ensure that percentage of housing subsidies that are allocated to women is representative of the percentage of female-headed households. Women emancipation can never be a task of women only, while their discrimination, marginalisation, suppression is dominated by the opposite sex. When we commit ourselves to act together with women for their emancipation nobody is doing anybody a favour. Instead when men and women act together for the emancipation of women, we are practically interpreting the constitution of our country, interpreting in practical terms the different Acts quoted here and those that are not, we are doing what must be done, and more importantly we are behaving humanly.

In this 50th celebrations of the women's march to Union Buildings, let us all say across gender lines that we shall act together in monitoring and evaluating the gender equality and gender equity as we occupy the room for improvement. And when we say that we should be cognisant of the fact that action speaks louder than words.

Value of a woman from a man's eye...

by Ishmael Ely Directorate: Planning

It is so huge and great you cannot measure it. The value of a woman differs from man to man. Some men through various situations encountered in their lives do not value woman.

But great men value woman as they are pillars of strength, hope and courage. The value of a woman is more than gold as they nourish us, from birth, young adults to adulthood.

Woman go through a lot of pain and humiliation in their lives and I value them for that. They stand every season...
Be it summer, autumn, winter or spring.
They are strong and therefore will never be challenged.

New Appointments

by Sandy Godlwana

We'd like to welcome our new colleagues who have been appointed from Aug 2006.

1. Ms Lovenda Saaiers, Mr Xolani Tylana's Secretary, Directorate: Customer Relations and Communication. Ext 2870

2. Mr Amanula Israel, Chief Works Inspector, Professional and Project Management Service. Ext 4989

3. Mr Petrus Bandzana, Senior State Accountant. He inspects payments, filing and also verifies payments. Directorate: Internal Control (Norms and Standards). Ext: 5442.

4. Mr Christian Solomons has been promoted to a Senior State Accountant, Norms and Standards

5. Mr Jacque Booyen, Senior State Account. He manages the risks in the Department and minimises the thefts and losses. Directorate: Risk Management and loss control. Ext: 5530

6. Mr Stembelo Soko, Accounting Clerk Clearances Section, Directorate: Financial Management, Sub Directorate: Financial Accounting. Ext: 5019

7. Ms Bulelwa Magudu, Assistant Director: Research Directorate: Planning, Research and Policy Development.



Newly Appointed Deputy Director at Disaster Management



by Marina Murriss

Mrs. Jacqueline Pandaram is the newly appointed Deputy Director for Disaster Recovery. She joined the Department of Local Government and Housing on 1 June 2006. Her passion for disaster management goes a long way back to almost 1988 when she became a civil defense volunteer in the area where she grew up, Macassar. Whilst schooling and being a volunteer, she completed several courses including: first aid, fire fighting and emergency communication.

During 1991, she completed the Basic Ambulance Assistant course and started doing voluntary work on the Ambulances at Strand Ambulance Station. This was also the year in which she matriculated from Macassar Senior Secondary. During March 1992 she was appointed as

a permanent reservist in the Ambulance Service and during October the same year she was the first lady to be permanently appointed within that specific region of which Strand Ambulance Service formed part. During 1993 she completed the Ambulance Emergency Assistant Course, following the Basic Medical Rescue as well as Advanced Driving courses. In 1994 she enrolled for a Diploma in Human Resources which she completed in 1996. During 1997 completed the B-Tech: Human Resources at the Peninsula Technikon. During this time she was also promoted to Senior Ambulance Assistant. Jacqueline then continued with her studies and completed a Masters Degree in Transport and Logistics at the University of Stellenbosch during 2001. In 2000 (September) she was appointed as Transport Economist for

the City of Cape Town. Her main purpose then was to evaluate Economic Evaluations on proposed improvements on roads or the construction of new roads.

Her thesis focused on evaluating the various alternatives in the construction of Broadway Boulevard in Strand. This journey was completed when she resigned in 2003 (Jan), after she got married to Shadrach Pandaram from Pietermaritzburg. She relocated to PMB and decided to enjoy the challenge of being a "HOUSE EXECUTIVE". In September 2003 they had a daughter named Chloe. "During December 2003 we decided to move back to Cape Town and she started applying for jobs in the Cape, while we were here on holiday". In February 2004 she was invited for an interview at the Cape Winelands District Municipality in Stellenbosch and was then appointed as Head: Disaster Operations. "It was a privilege to serve 5 B-Municipalities within the Cape Winelands for just over two years". In the meantime she obtained the Diploma: Disaster Management from Unisa. In 2005 they had the joy of a new addition to the family, when their son, Ethan was born.

On a professional level, she is responsible for the reconstruction and rehabilitation and therefore hopes to allow for previous experience specifically in economic evaluation to assist and give her direction to disaster recovery within the province. The challenge for her currently is to make previous exposure jell/compliment present expectations. Jacqueline is absolutely positive that with the help from God, she will be able to make a positive contribution to disaster recovery within the Province.

Deputy President's visit to Eden



by Sandy Godlwana

Deputy President Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Premier Ebrahim Rasool and other Cabinet Ministers visited Bitou Municipality as part of a strong delegation that attended the second Western Cape Presidential Imbizo in the Eden Municipality District on the 14 and 15 July 2006.

The Presidential Imbizo programme forms part of the efforts to speed up the implementation of Government's Program of action and improving the institutional capacity of Local Government to deliver basic services to communities.

Eden is the largest district within the Western Cape Province. The district is predominately urbanized with a recorded increase in urbanization of 39% during the last two census periods. HIV/AIDS is rife within this constituency and poses a key challenge with three of the five towns in the Western Cape with highest incidence of HIV/AIDS being within the boundaries of the district. It is a district also characterized by lumbering economic and social development strategies and has backlogs particularly in housing, sanitation and electricity.

Executive Mayor Cllr. Leon Dorfling of the Eden district municipality gave a comprehensive overview of the service delivery in Eden from 2000-2005. During question time the Ministers raised an array of issues directed to the Mayor. Amongst them one can draw attention to what is being done to empower the youth in the area. Minister of Health Manto Msimang Tshabala didn't understand why the HIV/AIDS issue is not tackled appropriately, bearing in mind that it is one of the burning issues.

The Western Cape Province has experienced service delivery protests that target councilors and municipal officials. Mainly, the grievances were centered on lack of delivery in housing, sanitation, electricity, water and allegations of corruption.

The Presidential Imbizo is therefore aligned with Project Consolidate and is strategically targeted to provide solutions to identified challenges.



People could also follow the events from outside the tents erected at the Imbizo.



Our Department's Stand at the Plettenberg Bay Imbizo.



One of the community members of Bitou at the Plettenberg Bay Imbizo.

Bitou Municipality Gearing for the Urban Restructuring of Plettenberg Bay



Bitou Executive Mayor, Lulama Mvimbi

by Sandy Godlwana

As part of the two day visit for the Presidential Imbizo in the Eden District. The Deputy President Mlambo-Ngcuka visited Bitou Municipality to attend the launch of the Urban Restructuring of the Plettenberg Bay project.

This landmark initiative was selected as a pilot project for the Western Cape Sustainable Human Settlement Strategy of the Department of Local Government and Housing. The strategy aims to integrate communities through the relocation of the urban core.

Plettenberg Bay's current CBD area serves a mainly white population located along the coast, 60% of which is only present ¾ weeks a year. The main population resides in the black townships of Kwanokuthula and New Horizons just beyond the outskirts of the CBD along the N2 National road. Property prices in the greater Plettenberg area are such that even ordinary professionals cannot afford accommodation. With the urban restructuring project, the relocation of the CBD will enhance property values in the existing townships.

The urban restructuring plan currently consists of four

components, which include the renewal of Plettenberg Bay Main Street, a housing project to formalize the informal settlement area in Bossiesgif/Qolweni, the establishment of an administrative node near New Horizons and Kwa-Nokuthula to bring local government services closer to the people as well as a long-term land exchange plan for industrial developments.

The main street will become a pedestrian-friendly space with a wide range of facilities and experiences to perk up the central business district and reflect Bitou's civic identity. Phase 1 of the site development of the Bossiesgif/Qolweni housing project will commence in October utilizing municipal land and will consist of 866 serviced sites. Phase Two will follow the completion of an estimated 633 serviced sites on procured land.

According to Bitou Executive Mayor Cllr. Lulama Mvimbi, the Bitou Municipality has embarked on a framework that will restructure the urban social and economic environment of Plettenberg Bay surrounds. "It's a great pleasure to have been identified as the pilot town in the Western Cape and we have worked closely with the Provincial Department of Local Government and Housing to bring this plan to completion. We are determined to show all our communities that Plettenberg Bay is a vigorous municipality, running without a budget shortfall and focused on service delivery, particularly in the black townships", said Mvimbi. He wants to give Plettenberg a new face and also see the unity of people within this area. He wants people to stay together be it Black, White, Indians or Coloureds, so they can contribute to the quality of life.

In a telephonic interview Mvimbi further added that he is adamant that the recently elected municipal council should be a showcase for responsible local government. He indicated that the newly appointed council will have a challenge of having to incorporate the urban restructuring project into their five year plan until their term ends in 2011. He is also certain the new blood will bring new ideas and better ways of doing things and that this project started at a right time.



Deputy President Mlambo-Ngcuka, Premier Rasool, Ms Lindiwe Hendricks Minister of Energy and Minerals, and Dr Rob Davies Deputy Minister for Trade and Industry

The Motivational Corner

by Sandy Godlwana

Welcome to our new section called the motivational corner. Whenever you are feeling down or have looming personal problems, turn to these quotes for some inspiration and words of wisdom. Motivation is and always has been an integral daily component in the long term success of any person, promoting positive thinking, personal growth, success and achievement.

1. "The block of granite which was an obstacle in the pathway of the weak, became a stepping-stone in the pathway of the strong." Thomas Carlyle.
2. "When one door of happiness closes, another opens, but often we look so long at the closed door that we don't see the one that has been opened for us." Helen Keller
3. "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." Martin Luther King Jr
4. "Do not follow where the path may lead go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." Harold R Mc Alidon
5. "If you do not hope, you will not find what is beyond your hopes." St Clement of Alexandra
6. "The only way of finding the limits of the possible is by going beyond them into the impossible." Arthur C. Clarke
7. "To climb steep hills requires a slow pace at first." Shakespear
8. "Our greatest glory is not in never falling but in rising every time we fall." Confucius

Phenomenal Woman

by Maya Angelou

Pretty women wonder where my secret lies
I'm not cute or built to suit a model's fashion size
But when I start to tell them
They think I'm telling lies.

I say

It's in the reach of my arms
The span of my hips
The stride of my steps
The curl of my lips.

I'm a woman
Phenomenally
Phenomenal woman
That's me.

I walk into a room
Just as cool as you please
And to a man
The fellows stand or
Fall down on their knees
Then they swarm around me
A hive of honey bees.

I say

It's the fire in my eyes
And the flash of my teeth
The swing of my waist
And the joy in my feet.

I'm a woman
Phenomenally
Phenomenal woman
That's me.

Men themselves have wondered
What they see in me
They try so much
But they can't touch
My inner mystery.
When I try to show them
They say they still can't see.

I say

It's in the arch of my back
The sun of my smile
The ride of my breasts
The grace of my style.

I'm a woman
Phenomenally
Phenomenal woman
That's me.
Now you understand
Just why my head's not bowed
I don't shout or jump about
Or have to talk real loud
When you see me passing
It ought to make you proud.

I say

It's in the click of my heels
The bend of my hair
The palm of my hand
The need for my care.
'Cause I'm a woman
Phenomenally
Phenomenal woman
That's me.

Sleeping at work

Here are the two best responses if found asleep at your desk!

1. "... and I especially want to thank you for my excellent boss. Amen."
2. "Augg! Why did you interrupt me? I had almost figured out a solution to our biggest problem."

www.ahajokes.com

Jokes



by Sandy Godlwana

750 Beneficiaries from Site C which is one of the largest informal settlements in Cape Town are now owners of homes at Mandela Park. The MEC for Local Government and Housing Qubudile Richard Dyantyi and senior officials from the Department met with the beneficiaries at the Site C Blue Hall on Sunday 7 August 2006. The sole purpose of this meeting was to listen and respond to pertinent questions by community members and addressing their concerns.

This Project was started in the year 2004 and was initiated by the Department of Local Government and Housing. After almost two and half years eighty six (86) houses out of seven hundred and fifty (750) for the whole project have been built thus far. Some of those houses are still incomplete and plagued with technical defects. MEC called for the completion of these houses by December 2006 and if they are not completed he is going to resign his position as MEC for local Government and Housing. A disappointing figure indeed, considering that the project was started some two and half years ago. Eighty six houses represent 11.5% progress on the overall project. If the current pace of delivery is maintained, it means this project will only be completed in about six to seven years from now. MEC Dyantyi has every reason and justification to be unhappy with this kind of progress. This project is managed by the Khayelitsa Community Based Development Company (KCBDC) which was established by people from the community. This is one of their first projects hence the progress of it has been slow with some houses not being complete.

There were array of problems that the beneficiaries of these homes are experiencing. The one issue being the problem of double occupation whereby two families share the same site. The other is that people who have already occupied their homes are not very pleased with the standard and quality of their homes hence not ideal conditions for a hassle-free living. As part of Government's ongoing community consultation and Batho Pele principles, this meeting gave a platform for the community to raise their concerns and to share solutions in the hope of improving service delivery

and bridging the gap between the Government and the public.

During question time tensions ran high as beneficiaries voiced out their frustrations. Problems ranged from falling ceilings, half built houses and allegations of corruption. "My ceiling is cracked, its winter and I am a very sickly person with no money, will the Government pay my hospital expenses?" asked a very furious Nomfaneki Mzaliso.

"We have been suffering in Site C for years. The damage has been done because of corrupt hooligans. We are tired of Government promising the earth and the moon. We need time-frames and help soon", said an enraged Litha Mendu.

MEC Dyantyi encouraged the residents to fight corruption by engaging the SAPS and reporting culprits who masquerade as government officials or committee members. While the engagement was in progress, Dyantyi called members of the SAPS to join the meeting and take statements from those who reported this during question time.

He went on to say that KCBDC were very slow with the project and they didn't give their 100% in it, for this reason he will now hand over this project to Thubelitsha homes that will manage and supervise this project together with KCBDC.

In conclusion the MEC thanked the beneficiaries for availing themselves and voicing out their concerns. He said, houses that are incomplete need to be completed, which is one of the reasons he has brought Thubelitsha on board to assist with this project. They will make a critical contribution by providing solutions to the practical roll-out challenges. There are a number of housing projects taking place within this area. This is a Government objective aimed at eradicating all informal settlements by 2014.



The community attending the meeting at Site C



by Zoë Butsaka

A long awaited day finally arrived, the 18th of July 2006. Though it was a symbolic handover of keys to a sample of beneficiaries, this day marked the beginning of a new dawn to many people who have been waiting for houses for many years. It was also a new chapter where successful residents are to start a new life of renting the new flats according to what they can afford.

The event was graced by the presence of politicians such as Ms Thoko Didiza - Minister of Public Works,

N2 Gateway Launch (continued from previous page)

Mr. Charles Nqakula - Minister of the South African Police Services, Mr. Ebrahim Rasool - Premier of the Western Cape, Mr. Leonard Ramatlakane - MEC for Community Safety in the Western Cape as well as the host Mr. Qubudile Richard Dyantyi - MEC for Local Government and Housing in the Western Cape. Other stakeholders like FNB, senior officials, community members and the media were also present.

"It is with confidence that today we have come together 15 months after the commencement of the project to witness an official hand over of the completed units", said Dr. Lindiwe Sisulu.

In phase 1 of the N2 Gateway, seven hundred and five (705) rental units have been completed. Five keys for five units were handed over to beneficiaries. The units are ready for occupation except for minor finishing touches. MEC Dyantyi will announce the date of occupation in the near future.



MEC Qubudile Richard Dyantyi interviewed by Cape Talk Radio Station



Minister Sisulu, Premier Rasool and MEC Dyantyi making hand prints in cement at the launch



From the left: Minister Sisulu, Mr Francois Pienaar, MEC Dyantyi, Minister Didiza and Premier Rasool

An African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)

by Zoë Butsaka

The APRM is a self-monitoring tool agreed upon by members of States of the African Union at the sixth summit of Heads of States and through the African Programme of Action (NEPAD) in 2003. It seeks to build governance systems in Africa and to promote continental economic integration.

The primary purpose of the APRM is to foster the adoption of policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated sub-regional and continental economic integration.

An APRM process therefore creates an enabling platform for a broader participation and intervention from all community sectors ranging from youth, women, professionals, people with disabilities, and so forth. It further creates a new sense of optimism for the participation of civil societies in all spheres of governance on the African continent. It can also be viewed as an initiative that for the first time in African history, Africans will share strategies and mechanisms of ensuring that Africa is collectively on a path of sustainable development and is not referred to with demeaning connotations such as "third world"

The aims and objectives of the APRM

The APRM process is designed to assist participating countries to develop and promote the adoption of laws, policies and practices that lead to:



- Political stability
- High rates of economic growth
- Sustainable development and
- Continental economic integration

This is to be done by sharing experiences, identifying and promoting best practice as well as understanding interventions to build capacity. The involvement of all Government and Civil Society role players is paramount in making this work.

In September 2005 in Gauteng, Community Development Workers across South Africa undertook training to equip themselves with the skills to lead discussions on issues raised by APRM.

On 24 June 2006, Western Cape Provincial Governing Council, the Community Development and Public Participation Directorate hosted a Provincial Sectoral Workshop, which was held in Langa Indoor Sport Complex.

The purpose of the workshop was to create awareness among communities, strengthen and broaden the sense of ownership of the APRM process and to show progress made by highlighting inputs from sectors.

On the 5 July 2006, there was a Provincial Consultative Conference. The purpose of the conference was to create the necessary platform for civil society in general and organized sectors in particular to engage and interact with

the draft country self assessment report that was presented at the second national consultative conference held in Kliptown on the 5th of May 2006.

This was also intended to prepare sectors for the country review team visit that had taken place two weeks later, which was attended by 467 delegates.

During deliberations in the commission, which were chaired by members of the PGC, delegates spoke at length about some key critical areas that the provincial report had to seriously look into. Dr Leon Pretorius did a presentation on the national report and Gillian Burrows had to do the provincial one.

On the 18th of July 2006, the country review team was in the province to carry out the widest possible range of consultations with government officials, political parties, parliamentarians and representatives of civil society

organizations (including the media, academic, business and professional bodies)

The country review visit was aimed at serving the following purposes, among others:

- Assess to what extent the province implemented participatory processes that met the expectations of all stakeholders.
- To provide an opportunity for the review team to interact with the key stakeholders in the province and to brief them on the APRM processes and guiding principles.
- To allow brief discussions on the draft program of action that the country has drawn up to improve its governance and socio economic development.

The team made a quick visit to the N2 Gateway launch where they were welcomed by the Minister of Housing Dr. Lindiwe Sisulu.



Birthdays - August 2006

by Sandy Godhwana



Name	Section	Birthday
S Samaai	Section: Finance & Admin	1 Aug
BN Mahlonti	Region: Overberg	1 Aug
VR Voegt	Region- City Of Cape Town	2 Aug
AR Hendricks	Directorate Project Consolidate	3 Aug
I Gallant	Division: Procurement And Provisioning	4 Aug
RG Bosman	Sub-dir: Legislation Development	4 Aug
RC Pieters	Sub-dir: Disaster Recovery	5 Aug
O Laseria Plaza	Eco:Cubans	7 Aug
B Mfeketo	Division: Subsidy Administration	8 Aug
KG Seroot	Region: Cape Winelands	8 Aug
N Ntsunguzi	Region: Cape Winelands	8 Aug
S Bongwana	Region: Overberg	8 Aug
MG Jacobs	Region- City Of Cape Town	9 Aug
MJ Noyakaza	Region: Eden	9 Aug
EL Karolus	Region- West Coast	10 Aug
CH Gabriels	Region: Cape Winelands	10 Aug
NC Tenge	Region: Eden	10 Aug
A Cruz Ochoa	Eco:Cubans	10 Aug
N Hadi	Personnel:Ministry:Local Government And Housing	11 Aug
E Du Plooy	Section: Admin Support	11 Aug
PJ Evertson	Region: Overberg	11 Aug
LK Martch	Sub-dir: Rental Housing Tribunal	12 Aug
AM Smit	Region- West Coast	12 Aug
R Saayman	Section: Record Management	13 Aug
SE Zenzile	Region: Cape Winelands	13 Aug
SP August	Section: Rates And Taxes	15 Aug
JE Saaiman	Region: Central Karoo	16 Aug
RC Bowers	Division: Departmental Asset Management	17 Aug
A Neewat	Region: Central Karoo	17 Aug
M Hansby	Division:Loans & Transfers	18 Aug
M Barnes	Dir: Disaster Management & Fire Brigade Services	18 Aug
F Du Plooy	Div: Maintenance & Inspections	19 Aug
HE Hendricks	George Office: Sec:Property Plan & Transfer	19 Aug
K Steenkamp	Region: Overberg	19 Aug
HD Muller	Sub-dir: Engineering Services	20 Aug
C Loubser	Region: Cape Winelands	20 Aug
TDJ Alfonso Vera	Division: Cuban Support	22 Aug
J Groeneveld	Sub-dir: Mitigation	22 Aug
P Weideman	Sub Directorate: Municipal Performance	22 Aug
MJ Van Niekerk	Division:Settlement Control	23 Aug
FB Hermanus	Region: Central Karoo	23 Aug
CA Ross	Division: Projects	24 Aug
M Theron	Division: Human Resource Planning	24 Aug
NF Hoza	Sub Directorate Specialised Support	24 Aug
Z Mzam	Region- City Of Cape Town	24 Aug
EF Juries	Sub-dir: Capacity Building	25 Aug
ED Samuels	Region: Overberg	26 Aug
D Scott	Division:Settlement Control	26 Aug
CR Carelse	George Office: Registry Services	27 Aug
P Mpuang	Dir: Community Development Workers Programme	27 Aug
EG Booysen	Region: Central Karoo	27 Aug
S Fakier	Division:Letting Maintenance And Pre-sales	28 Aug
JL Meyer	Region: Central Karoo	28 Aug
CC Cyster	Region: Overberg	28 Aug
D Smit	Div: Project Inspections	29 Aug
G Afrikaner	Region- West Coast	30 Aug
DS Francis	Division: Communications	31 Aug
OE Herder	Region: Central Karoo	31 Aug



by Sandy Godlwana

1. Who is Ms Sandamela and where does she come from?

I see myself as a Vibrant, Passionate and Driven Proudly South African Black woman. I am a Registered Professional Architect who started my studies at UCT and completed my Bachelor in Architecture degree with Honours at Howard University in Washington D.C., USA. I have been in the Construction Industry for the past 16 years as an Architect, Construction and Project Manager. I have worked with international and local Architectural companies and with Department of Public Works before joining the Department of Local Government and Housing.

2. Could you share with staff what are some of the new skills that you will bring to the Department

The word new is not what I would use for what I will bring but rather innovative is the word to describe what I believe I will bring. There's a few I can think of but will focus on just two. One, I believe my fresh and innovative management skills are an asset I bring with me into the Department. The basis of that management style is Batho Pele principles which stipulate mutual respect and respect

for people irrespective of "position/rank". Secondly my experience on the ground in the construction industry will definitely have a positive impact on my work for the Department.

3. How do you define success and have you achieved it?

Success to me is the ability of a person to establish a legacy, which is in line with what the Deputy President recently challenged us with at the Women in Local Government Conference. I believe I am striving towards this but have not quite reached that level yet.

4. If you were given an opportunity to work with your role model, who would it be and why choose that role model?

Nelson Mandela because he is a Legend, that should explain everything; Oprah Winfrey for all she has achieved, considering where she came from, and believing in herself and her abilities, celebrating them and encouraging other women to do the same; and Yolanda Adams, the gospel singer for her musical gifts and abilities.

5. August is Women's month, what message can you share with women?

Actually there should be a women's year. I long to see Women celebrate their inherent abilities to multi task more and to do it well on a day to day basis. I think society's expectations that women should excel at work, be good mothers, good homemakers and other tasks puts them under a lot of pressure but they do it every single day and they do it well. So I want to say Women please give yourselves a break and make sure you put yourself first more.

6. Three things that best define you?

Passionate, Energetic and Compassionate.

7. What are you currently reading or most memorable book:

21 Irrefutable Qualities of a Team player by John C Maxwell and the story of 5 Phenomenal Women from the Bible by Francine Rivers.

8. Life philosophy:

My life philosophies are: to respect people, live everyday as if it was your last; and do not wallow over extended periods of time in feeling sad, angry or sorry for yourself.



Our famous "Tug of War" team in action at a previous Sports Day

by Zoë Butsaka

Only twelve weeks left!

"Are your running shoes out of your closet?" Have you started training for this exciting day for the fun and fitness part of it?

The various sport co-ordinators have planned their teams onslaught, for this year Sports Day, like seasoned "field" marshals.

We all know that hard work, planning, practice and above all else dedication bring success. We know where we went wrong last year and are planning accordingly.

To those who achieved success last year, well done and keep up the good work. To those who are still unsure as to whether they will participate, step up to the line and be counted.

This is the year when we say "If not the best, amongst the best". If you have tried and you failed that is better than not to have tried at all. You must remember all we are asking is your best, and if you have given your best, we could not have asked you for more.

There are events where the one partners good looks and the others ability will pull you through!! (only kidding)

We must remember that the people, who are you and me make up what is known as the "Department of Local Government and Housing" "POSITIVE ATTITUDE" is everything.

Lets make 2006 a year to be remembered.