

News Flash

Official LDPW News Update

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PUBLIC WORKS JOIN HANDS WITH IDT

On 19th August 2013 MEC for Department of Public Works Mr. Dickson Masemola and CEO for Independent Development Trust (IDT) Ms. Thembi Nwendamutswu signed a Memorandum of Understanding. This came as a result of a recovering plan/turnaround strategy that was developed by the executive team of DPW together with the administrator.

The Department of Public Work's primary mandate is service delivery and to maintain government infrastructure. The event held was to make sure that the department lives up to its mandate to deliver infrastructure on behalf of the Departments of Education, Health and Sport, arts & Culture by signing a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with IDT. "The millions that we have been given by the government should be used to implement tangible social infrastructure, we don't want to find out at the end of this financial year not even a cent has been used, HOD Mr Madidimalo Chamaano and the Administrator Mr Mbuyi Dondashe will take overall administrative responsibility and I will take full responsibility for this implementation, MEC Masemola indicated. The MEC also said he has full confidence in the senior management of LDPW and have full confidence in IDT together we can make this happen".

It was indicated that before the end of April 2014 contractors should be on site. The CEO for IDT thanked the MEC for such an



Dickson Masemola (MEC for Public works) and Thembi Nwendamutswu (CEO :IDT) sign a Memorandum Of Understanding.

opportunity which the MEC has intrusted them with full responsibility for this project ; they promised to respond to the government requirements in order to deliver this programme. She also mentioned that planning is critical for any implementation of any social infrastructure and she said it is important that we begin to prioritise so that by April the implementation may commence.



MEC Dickson Masemola and Thembi Nwendamutswu handing over the signed contracts.

EPWP creates more jobs

EPWP is a key government programme which its objectives is to contribute significantly towards the alleviation of unemployment and poverty through the creation of labour-intensive work opportunities and this is exactly what EPWP is continuing to do even in this financial year. The Department of Public Works Mokapane cost centre has appointed 30 NYS students to do horticulture. Our newsflash Belinda Chabalala had a one on one with two reps from the NYS group to find out their experience so far and this is how it went:

Belinda : Please introduce yourselves and tell us when you started with this programme and when will you be completing?

NYS 1: My name is Jerry Madumetja Mosehlana. I am with Palesa Mamlow Lekalakala we started working here at the Department of Public Works Mokopane Cost Centre Unit D on the 1st of August and our contract will expire on the 31st August 2014

Belinda : How will this programme assist you?

Jerry: After we have completed this training they promised to give us certificates so with those certificates we will be able to use them to apply for jobs, and maybe we will be lucky considering the fact that we have something to prove that we can do the job. As you know , when you apply for a job this days you should have experience and papers so I think this will work to our advantage in getting jobs.

Belinda : What are your goals during this programme?

Jerry: My goal is definitely to learn as much as I can, because my future depends on it.

Palesa : my goal is to gain experience and be able to implement this when I go back at home.

Belinda : what do you do on a daily basis?

Jerry: We sign in at 7:00 and knock off at 16:30, every morning our supervisor tells us what to do and where to do it, she'll do it first so we can see then she hands it over, we do horticulture/ gardening our job is about the environment.

Belinda : Any challenges that you face?

Palesa: We only have one challenge which are hand gloves, as you can see we are working in the garden picking up grass and dirt so we could appreciate getting gloves, though this challenge

doesn't disturb progress in our job, it's a minor challenge we still do our job irregardless, but all in all we haven't met any other challenges as we have just commenced, so far so good.

We then spoke to the student's supervisor Ms Saleleni Georgina Manganyi who explained that working with this students have been such a great pleasure to her, "it's just tough sometimes because I was not trained to handle some situations that we face in the field mostly being students fighting , I sometimes don't know what to do or how to handle this" she also said sometimes the learners leave without learning everything they need to learn because of lack of resources but she is trying to teach them as much as she can with the available resources. They sometimes divide them into two groups of 15 each where some will go and work on the other side of Zebediella road and the others at Unit D, it has so far been good working with them, she said.



Two student representatives Palesa Lekalakala and Jerry Mosehlana interviewed by Belinda.



Supervisor Ms Saleleni Georgina Manganyi having a one on one with Belinda

DEPARTMENTAL EXPERIENTIAL LEARNERS



Profile

My name is Thaitha Kgatle. I am a 22 years old student from Jeppe College doing Public Management. I work as a PA under Human Resource Services.

Expectations

I am hoping to gain more knowledge in the Public Management field and also study further, I want to do BTech in Public Management with Unisa.

My Experience so Far

This has been a great experience for me. I am happy to be here hoping to learn more.

Best Moments

My best moment was when they showed me my office.

Challenges

So far I haven't met any challenges.



Profile

My name is Tebogo Maila and I am 21 years of age. I am a student from Jeppe College doing Public Management. I am now doing my experiential in

this department and will be here for 18 months. I work as a PA under Lease and Municipal service.

Expectations

My expectations are to gain experience within the Public Management field in this Department.

Experience

I have gained more experience since I started working here at the Department of Public Works. I am experiencing and learning new challenges each and every working day.

Best Moments

The day my boss introduced me to the staff. I felt honored and free to work with them because

they are kind and they know how to work with different people.

Challenges

No challenges so far

Motto

In order to get there you get down and work. Hardworking is the only way to get to the top.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S MONTH



MANYORO KHANGALE ALINAH

• What does women's day mean to you?

It is a day to remember and honor the great work being done by women all over the world to change conditions for us women. It makes us remember the pains that women have faced and also see the beauty in women.

• What are challenges faced by women in a workplace?

Discrimination still does exist in the workplace. There are still situations where women are not trusted or fully supported in the work that they do. I would want to name them all but all in the bottom one is discrimination.

• Which women do you admire most? Why?

Winnie Mandela, Albertina Sisulu and Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka are the ones to be admired. They stand out for women as they are strong characters.

• Describe a woman in your own words.

A woman takes care of the family, stands up for everything. Has love, patience and is very strong.

• Do you feel women in managerial positions are rightfully placed?

Yes, it is totally fair as it uplifts women in the world.



ONE ON ONE WITH KGABO MASHIANE

What does women's day mean to you? What is it all about?

Woman's day commemorates the women who marched to the union building on the 09th August 1956 against the pass law that was implemented then. More than 10 000 women were present and stood there for half an hour in silence to deliver the signed petition to the then Prime Minister, J Strijdom. The purpose of this, I think was to remove laws that oppressed women and made them inferior especially in the economic world.

What this day means to me, is that women should be given the same opportunities as men in the workplace, in our social environment and also financially. It also means that the nation recognises the impact/ the importance of women in democracy and that we can contribute as effectively as men do.

- **What are challenges faced by women in the workplace?**

I think most men do not fully appreciate the stress and pressure they put women under in the workplaces. As women we are constantly undermined as though our ideas don't matter. In most cases, you actually see that it is the male opinions that are held in high regard. Moreover most men do not know boundaries in the workplace as they constantly try to flirt with women. When you are a boss as a woman you have men as subordinates especially who are older than you(Mr. know it all) tend to either avoid approaching you or pretend not to hear your instructions. As if that is not enough, society and culture forces you even in the workplace to consider your age when you are addressing "elders" and in the work place it gets tricky when you have to reprimand someone.

- **Which women do you admire most? Why?**

The women that I admire have to be the women who conquered and who made it big in the corporate and business world. I also admire women who are principled and high on morale. A woman who stands for what is right and a humble woman.

- **Describe a woman in your own words.**

A woman is a human being first and foremost. Breathe the same air as many breathe. She is a mother, sister, daughter and child with so much to learn and achieve. She is a hard worker and wants to achieve so much for her family, peers and friends so that she can be

counted. She a nurturer and a caregiver, respectful and demand respect in return.

- **Do you feel women in managerial positions are rightfully placed?**

First and foremost the issue of placement in the department cannot be narrowed to a "woman issue". I think both men and women should be reviewed and placed equally in right positions irrespective of gender.

Affirmative action was created because it was mostly men in charge meaning women had no chance of advancement. No one questioned whether or not the men there were rightfully placed.

LDPW PLOUGH BACK TO COMMUNITY

Limpopo Department of Public Works is directly responsible for the development and implementation of massive programmes in building the economic and social infrastructure, by transforming structural economy in the development and maintenance of infrastructure of the province.

Through the departmental in-house skilled Artisans that portray various skills (Carpentry, Bricklaying, Welding and Plumbing), Mokopane Cost Centre have been tasked with the responsibility of maintaining and to revamping damaged infrastructure in Schools and repair broken desks in support of the client department in particular Department of Education. The Cost Centre provided skills transfer to appointed EPWP learners in the form of Landscaping, carpentry, bricklaying and Welding for the last financial 2012/13 using available resources at the cost centre.



Mr. Sedibe showing one of the models created by EPWP learners during training.



Mokopane bricklaying team after completion of paving at Sekgooa Kgala Lower Primary School Mahwelereng

A DAY TO REMEMBER

Friday, 16 August 2013 marked an important day for women in Polokwane as the MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture hosted a Woman's Health Walk to commemorate woman's month and encourage active, healthy lifestyles among female public servants and their counterparts in business.

Women from all Limpopo Departments came in large numbers to attend the woman's walk last Friday. The walk started at the SABC Park at 08:30 and proceeded to the Olympics Towers where the MEC for Sport, Arts & Culture addressed the participants.

Participants were asked to wear funny/creative hats and there was a competition of the most funniest/creative hat where Hansi Kruger was 1st place winner and Kgaogelo Letsoalo was the 2nd place winner. Other activities that took place were dancing competition as well as exercises conducted by fitness trainers from Virgin Active and Body life.

This event has really encouraged us as women to take our health seriously by trying to eat healthy as well as do regular exercises. “We are very pleased to have attended this event and hoping to do it every year” said one of the participants.



LDPW women who attended the Woman's Health Walk



Ladies who participated in the Hat Competition.



Women working out at the Olympic towers.



Kaba V and Anita Doras together with other ladies walking to the Olympic Towers



From Anonymous' Pen

With fraud and corruption being associated with government spheres and officials, the arrest of government officials only adds petrol to the ever roaring protests about service delivery.

Recently some with my colleagues we had the liberty of meeting the new MEC for Public Works Mr Namane Dickson Masemola. The meeting turned out to be enlightening and significant.

He gave everyone a task to go and read with understanding James 3 vs 1 which reads as follows: ***"Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers; for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness."*** I took the liberty of reading it further, which turned out to be a script which teaches a lot more.

Going back to the verse at hand, I understand it talks to all employees of government. That being in government comes with accountability and responsibility for public accounts, honesty, trust and passion are requires in making that a reality. Of cause not all South Africans can be on management positions/be government officials/be political heads, **don't get me wrong here, if the opportunity arises grab with both hands provided you possess the qualities and requirements.** All I am saying is if it happens that you are on that management position/government official/political

head just know that you will be accountable for every decision and action made which is not for the benefit of the public and service delivery.

If we live up to the quote, maybe Auditor General, Public Protector, SCOPA and Portfolio Committees even media will spend less time stressing issues of fraud and corruption amongst government officials. Maybe, just maybe, we would not be under administration. Perhaps public protests would not be so violent and constant. Perhaps government will stop blaming apartheid for its mishaps and give the public was is duly theirs. Perhaps we will stop wasting state resources by going in and out of court. Perhaps prison will be reserved for serious crime committers, not fraudsters and corrupt officials.

All I can say is I hope this one stays; we had enough change to last the department a lifetime. They come, raise our hope, act like they care and leave faster than Zimbabwean dollar.

The dream of a clean audit, accountability and transparency and don't have to go with him and them all, but **MUST** be engraved in us all. At the end of the day, they come and go; we stay which is a clear indication that we are responsible for that clean audit, maintaining asset register, giving the public value for money kind of service and eliminating fruitless expenditures.

Just maybe the employer will then realise and recognise us as the hardworking women and men we are and grand us with better performance bonus percentage.

Signing off until next time!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

MEET MEC'S OFFICE SUPPORT STAFF



**SLOW CHAUKE : PARLIAMENTARY
OFFICER**



**BAATSEBA MYENI : APPOINTMENT
SECRETARY**



MPHO MOTLANTHE : PA TO THE MEC



PAT KGOMO : MEDIA LIASON OFFICER



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

VISION

A leader in the provision and management of land and buildings.

MISSION

Optimal utilization of resources in the provision and management of provincial land and buildings and the coordination of Expanded Public Works Programme.

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For comments email: newsroom@dpw.limpopo.gov.za

"Remember the values

Happy people

Professionalism"

Re a Soma

