



**Bahula elected new SDM Executive Mayor** 

The council of Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), has elected Cllr Minah Bahula as the new executive mayor of the district municipality.

Bahula, who was mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM), was elected during a special council sitting held on Saturday 18 November at Moses Mabotha Civic Hall, in Ga-Nchabeleng Village, Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipality (FTLM). In delivering her maiden speech, Bahula committed on the acceleration of services by uprooting corruptive elements that hinder quality services. "We must combat corruption whenever it rears its ugly head. Good governance is our collective responsibility. Our people expect everyone to be accountable, responsive and transparent in the execution of services. Our people deserve better". She said she accepts this mammoth responsibility fully awake of myriad of challenges that lie ahead in the district, especially the muddy reports of malfeasance and corruption that continue to haunt the district. The new executive mayor also reminded her colleagues in council of the District Development Model's Presidential Imbizo held recently where residents bemoaned lack of services especially the scarcity and lack of water. She said the District Development Model approach is seen as a game changer by improving coherence and impact of service delivery in communities. It seeks to also align and integrate plans and budgets as one government. "Our people are running out of patience. The immediate task is to asses failures of the already established water schemes and ailing infrastructure in the district as well as resuscitating water committees in all the wards. It can't be business as usual. We are going to turn things around," she said. Much to the extreme delight and applause of the executive mayor's

presentation was when she announced plans to provide all traditional authorities with boreholes to mitigate on the issue of the provision of water in the district. Bahula also highlighted the long outstanding issue on the relocation of government and municipal offices to Jane Furse also took centre stage in her delivery. This she dared her peers to speedily come up with tangible, workable and practical action plan to resolve it. Other matters of emphasises by Bahula was the call to collaboratively clamp down on illegal spaza shops that continue to ravage

communities through trading of fake and expired goods. She said this is a matter to be attended to by closely working with law enforcement authorities, other relevant sectors and by tightening of municipal bylaws across the district.

The African National Congress (ANC) in Sekhukhune Region has congratulated Bahula who is also the Acting Regional Chairperson, the current Deputy Provincial Chairperson of the ANC Womens' League in Limpopo and as the newly elected executive mayor.







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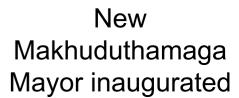
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# Eight nabbed for voter registration intimidation

The police in Ga-Masemola have arrested eight suspects, aged between 27 and 43, in connection with intimidation during voter registration at Ga-Masemola Tribal Office. According to Brigadier Hlulani Mashaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, the suspects were arrested after allegedly blocking and intimidating other community members who were going into the registration point placed at Masemola Tribal. "It was also reported that suspects threatened party agents in the process.

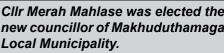
The incident took place at around 10:00 in the morning. The police were alerted about the incident and quickly responded. On arrival, a group of men and women were identified by the ward councillor. A case of intimidation was opened and the suspects, three females and five males, were arrested," he said. Mashaba said the suspects appeared before the Nebo Magistrate's Court on Monday 20 November 2023 and were all released on free bail. "Their case was postponed to 19

January 2024 for further police investigations. The police investigations are still continuing," he said. Furthermore, Mashaba said the Limpopo Police, led by Provincial Commissioner, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, worked diligently over the voter registration weekend, 18 to 19 November 2023, by ensuring extensive deployments of members at various registration points across the province, working closely with the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), other government departments and local leadership. "We commend our officers for ensuring a peaceful registration process in the province. Ours was to ensure a safe and secure environment for eligible community members who wanted to register to vote. An integrated approach ensured smooth sharing of information and gathering intelligence on the ground, thus ensuring a safe and efficient registration weekend," said Lieutenant General Hadebe.



The Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality newly elected Mayor, Cllr Merah Mahlase, has committed to the acceleration of services to communities. Mahlase was elected during a Special Council Sitting held on Monday 20 November at the municipal chamber in Jane Furse. This follows a declaration of vacancy in the committee that was created as a result of the redeployment of former Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Hon Cllr Minah Bahula to join the District Council by her political party the ANC, and also her recent election as the Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune during their Special Meeting convened on Friday 17 November at Moses Mabotha Civil Hall, Ga-Nkwana. The Special Council Sitting also resolved amicably, to immediately realign and reconfigure its Executive Committee. Mayor Mahlase, Hunadi, affectionately known, who was accompanied by her family, is no stranger to positions of leadership and responsibilities. She was until recently, the deputy head of Infrastructure and has previously served the municipality and the community in various portfolios amongst her other developmental credentials, such as being PR Councillor from 2011 to 2016. She became the ward councillor from 2016 to 2021, the position that led her to head the Economic Development Portfolio Committee in the same administration term. "We would also like to appreciate the communities, more emphasis on the youth who have gone out in numbers to register to vote in the next elections, and entrench the work and gains as well as take active interest of our young democracy. I am humbled by the opportunity to lead and contribute towards the total development of our residents," she said. As per the tradition, the sitting also allowed the public to witness this historic occasion and embrace public participation who were joined by the Sekhukhune District Municipality Speaker, Cllr Kgwediebotse Chego, the ruling party's Regional Secretary Tala Mathope alongside the new Executive Mayor Cllr Bahula.







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### Limpopo crime stats continue to increase

The Democratic Alliance (DA) in Limpopo said the alarming crime rate in the province is of a great concern. This is after the Limpopo crime statistics for the second quarter of 2023/2024, indicate yet another predicted increase in the reported serious crimes. Katlego Phala, DA Provincial Spokesperson on Transport and Community Safety, said: "Every day 281 victims reported murder, assault, sexual offences, theft and robbery incidents." Phala said concerning year on year increases, the province reported 310 attempted murders, an increase by 19.2%, 1153 sexual offences that increase by 1.7%, common assault increased to 2627 cases, commercial crime increased to 1733, an increase of 16.9%. "As crimes detected as a result of police action increased by 30.2%, it is clear that police visibility alone is not going to curb the scourge of serious crime. She indicated that Limpopo has been experiencing an annual increase in crime for years now and the ANC executive would like to downplay and normalise this scourge by lip service and empty promises. "The DA does not accept this and will continue to fight for a capable and well-resourced police force to keep our communities safe," she said.

### Limpopo 2022 Census results officially released

The Premier of Limpopo, Stanley Mathabatha, has expressed his satisfaction with the positive outcomes of the 2022 Census Report, which was officially handed to him by Statistician General of South Africa, Risenga Maluleke, at the Mowaneng Building in Polokwane on Friday 10 November. The report provides a statistical overview of the province and will be used for planning to address the challenges faced by citizens. During the release of the report, Maluleke highlighted the significant support received from the province, emphasising the collaborative effort by the Limpopo Provincial Government and traditional leaders that contributed to reaching 97% of dwellings in Limpopo. Notably, the province has seen an increase in the number of households from about 1.4 million in 2011 to about 1.8 million in 2022. The Census 2022 report indicates a significant increase in the total population of Limpopo by 1,2 million from 5,5 million in 2011 to 6,7 million in 2022, with nearly six out of ten children aged 0-4 years having access to early childhood development programmes. However, the province showed negative net-migration, losing about 114,000 persons between the 2011 and 2022 censuses, primarily due to out-migration. Additionally, the report indicates a decrease in traditional and informal housing, reflecting positive developments in housing infrastructure. However, Maluleke also raised concerns about the loss of young people to Gauteng after completing their matric, emphasising the need for economic competitiveness to retain the province's youth and ensure continued growth and development. Mathabatha echoed the sentiment of progress, saying: "The report is good news as we have come a long way as a province since the dawn of democracy. Numbers don't lie, a lot has been done to improve the livelihoods of our people." The premier emphasised the evident economic development across all districts in Limpopo and the increased access to basic services such as flushing toilets, water, electricity, education, infrastructure, and healthcare. Mathabatha also reflected on the province's transformation over the past 29 years, highlighting the significant improvements in housing infrastructure and overall development. He acknowledged the challenges that lie ahead but emphasised the positive direction in which the province is heading. "The Limpopo Provincial Government is committed to utilising the Census 2022 results for effective planning and to address the challenges faced by citizens. The report will serve as a valuable tool for guiding future development initiatives and ensuring the continued progress and prosperity of the province," he said.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF SECTION 24 OF THE NA-TIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT (NEMA), 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998) AS AMENDED READ WITH REGULATION 19 OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) REGULATION, 2014 FOR MINING PERMIT AP-PLICATION FOR IRON ORE, ALUMINIUM, NITRATE, TITANIUM, ZINC ORE, AND ZIRCON. MINING WILL BE CARRIED OUT ON DRIEKOP 253 KT FARM SITUATED IN FETAKGOMO TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF SEKHUKHUNE, LIMPOPO PROVINCE OF SOUTH **AFRICA** 

Hudson Kay (Pty) Ltd lodged an application to Mining Permit and Prospecting Rights for Iron Ore, Aluminium, Nitrate, Titanium, Zinc Ore, and Zircon together with Environmental Authorization with the Department of Mineral Resources Limpopo Region Bearing the DMR Ref No.: LP30/5/1/3/2/11965MP and LP30/5/1/1/2/14922PR.

With reference to the abovementioned application, please be advised that the Department has granted the Environmental Authorization applied for in terms of Section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 as

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2014, we were requested to notify all registered Interested and Affected Parties, as we hereby do of the relevant provisions to lodgment of appeal, within 14 (Fourteen) calendar days, from the date of the Department's decision.

Kindly be advised that should you wish to appeal any aspect of the decision, you must submit the appeal to the Minister of Environmental Affairs and a copy of such appeal to the Department of Mineral Resources (Limpopo Regional Office), within 20 days from the date of notification, and such appeal must be lodged as prescribed in the Chapter 2 of the National Appeal Regulations of 2014, by means of the methods prescribed below:

#### Appeal to the Department of Environmental Affairs

Directorate Appeals and Legal Review Attention appeals@dffe.gov.za Private Bag X 447 Pretoria, 0001 Email

By Post

Environmental House By Hand 473 Steve Biko Road (Corner Steve Biko & Soutpans

berg Street) Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083

### Copy Lodged Appeal to the Department of Mineral Resources

Attention Regional Manager: Limpopo Region Email Thivhulawi.Kolani@dmre.gov.za (015) 297 7230 Tel

By Post

Private Bag X 9467 Polokwane, 0700 DMR Building, By Hand 101 Dorp Street, Polokwane, 0699

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#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A WATER USE LICENCE IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL WATER ACT NO 36 OF 1998

#### Applicant:

NutriFeeds (Pty) Ltd: Marble Hall site

Location of the activities:

Erf 154, 156 and 157 Marble Hall Extension 1 Township, Marble Hall, Limpopo Province.

Nature of proposed activity, applicable legislation, and listed activities:

Section 21(a) water uses: Abstraction of water

Groundwater abstraction of 23,000 m³/a from a borehole for use in the industrial process (24°58'18.95"S,

Section 21(g) water uses: Disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource

- Sump in corner of erf (10 m³) to collect solid waste before wastewater is disposed of into the municipal storm water system (24°58'20.77"S, 29°17'1.91"E)
- Coal stockpile (60-ton capacity) for use in the boilers (24°58'21.93"S, 29°17'4.49"E)
- Ash stockpile (capacity to be confirmed) from coal burned in the boilers (24°58'21.86"S, 29°17'4.07"E) Section 21(i) water uses: Removing, discharge or disposing of water found underground for the continuation of an activity or for the safety of persons
- Sump in Mielie pit 01 (0.18 m²) (water is pumped from underground to eliminate seepage in the pit area and is disposed of into the sump in comer of erf) (24°58'21.77"S, 29°17'7.52"E)
- Sump in Mielie pit 02 (0.18 m²) (water is pumped from underground to eliminate seepage in the pit area and is disposed of into the sump in comer of erf) (24°58'22.53"S, 29°17'7.86"E)

#### The process to be followed:

According to GN 267, Regulations Regarding the Procedural Requirements for Integrated Water Use Licence Applications and Appeals of 2017 i.t.o NWA:

"A procedure for public participation must be conducted as contemplated in section 41(4) of the Act, as part of the water use licence application process"

The process followed adheres to Appendix 8 of GN 267, Regulations Regarding the Procedural Requirements for Water Use Licence Applications and Appeals of 2017 i.t.o NWA. NutriFeeds (Pty) Ltd – Marble Hall site have thus appointed BECS Environmental as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to apply for the Water Use License.

The adjacent landowners as well as stakeholders have 60 days in which to give comments on this applica-

#### Competent authority and relevant reference number:

Department of Water and Sanitation (Olifants Catchment Management)

Reference number: WU31923

#### Additional information:

An WULA process will be followed. Letters are sent to all I&APs and stakeholders on the 24th of November 2023. A site notice is placed at the site on the 24th of November 2023.

#### Register as an interested and affected party (I&AP):

To register as an I&AP of this project, to obtain more information, or submit comments, please request a Registration Form from BECS Environmental and return it with the details provided below before 14th of February 2024. The timeframe is extended to 14 February 2024 as per the EIA Regulations, Regulation 3(3) of 2014 i.t.o NEMA which states that no public participation can happen between 15 December and 5 January. Contact details:

Chantelle Tollemache: 079 715 2041, chantelle@becsenv.co.za

#### Details of the public meeting:

Date: 24 January 2024

Venue: NutriFeeds: Marble Hall site

Time: 10:00 - 11:00

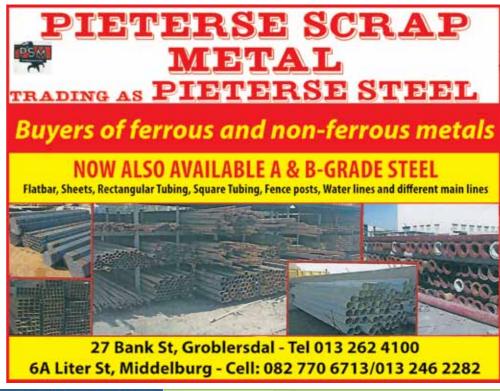
Kindly RSVP before 23 January 2024 should you wish to attend the public meeting.

### **MEC Ramathuba activates Moutse and** Tooitskraal Clinics into 24 hours service

MEC for Health in Limpopo, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, has on Sunday 12 November launched activation of two 24-hour clinics at Moutse Clinic in Dennilton, Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality and Tooitskraal Clinic in Tooitskraal Farms, Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality. According to the Health Department, the facilities will serve the community with an aim to provide accessible healthcare services 24/7, eliminating the need for communities to travel long distances for medical care. Ramathuba started by activating Tooitskraal Clinic. She was accompanied by Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality Mayor Cllr Given Moimana. She then proceeded to Moutse Clinic in Dennilton to perform the same activation at the health facility. During the two activations, Ramathuba emphasized that the importance of the support and protection of healthcare

workers by urging traditional leaders and community stakeholders to prevent criminal incidents that could jeopardize the safety of these essential workers.







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### Mohlotsi FC gain SAFA Hollywoodbets Football League

Mohlotsi United FC has been officially promoted to the SAFA Hollywoodbets Sekhukhune Football League. The team gained entry in the regional league after defeating Ratanang FC 3-2 in a match that played on Sunday 19 November at Mooihoek Sports Ground outside Marble Hall. Mohlotsi United FC is a brainchild of Aubrey "Turn around" Boshielo who is a transport service provider and a former soccer player. Following the promotion, the team will be coached by Bobby Matlala and will be assisted by Jethro Mogwane and Jeffrey Hlabirwa Walker as Marketing Manager of the club. The team will be using Mohlotsi Sports Ground and Mooihoek Sports Ground as their home grounds for their upcoming league matches. Boshielo, who is the founder and chairperson of the club, said he is delighted to see his team progressing and gaining promotion to the biggest football league in Sekhukhune. "I would like to take this opportunity to thank God and my wife for supporting me through the struggle that led the league to be promoted to the regional league, not forgetting the hard work put by players and our supporters. It was not easy but I believe it was worth it at the end," he said. Boshielo emphasized that they want to put the same effort or more for the team to be promoted to the ABC Motsepe League, the third tier of South African professional football. "We are pleading with sponsors to help us create a platform that will see our aspiring soccer players reach their dream. I believe soccer is the only sporting activity rural communities have access to with minimal resources and it is also a platform to take the kids away from criminal and immoral activities," explained Boshielo. Team head coach Bobby Matlala said he believes that the game between Ratanang and his team gave him a chance test the new players ahead of the starting of the new football season. "I am happy to have more players who have been exposed to the league and are looking forward to be part of the team that will be promoted at the end of this season. I would like to thank Mr Boshielo for his effort and making sure the team is promoted," he said. Mohlotsi United FC will play their first SAFA Hollywoodbets Football League match on 26 November 2023 at Mohlotsi United FC Sports Grounds.



Mohlotsi United FC has been officially promoted to the SAFA Hollywoodbets Sekhukhune Football League.



Ratanang FC just after taking on Mohlotsi FC in a Hollywoodbets Sekhukhune Regional League match held at Mooihoek Sports Grounds.





