

2023/ 2024 Budget Speech - Northern Cape Department of Sports, Arts and Culture.

Honourable Speaker and Deputy Speaker

Honourable Premier

Members of the Executive Council

Members of the Provincial Legislature

Officials from the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture

Comrades, Friends and esteemed Members of the Sport, Arts and Culture Fraternity

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Molweni , Dumelang , Goeie Middag , Good Afternoon

Honourable Speaker, It is to me a great honour and privilege to table this year's budget vote 7 which is the pan- ultimate budget speech of the Department of Sport , Arts and Culture in the 6th democratic administration. This year 2023 we commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the United Democratic Front , 30 years of the assassination of Comrade Chris Hani and 10 years of the passing on of the father of our nation , former President Nelson Mandela. They were affectionately known in the movement for their fight for a non-racial, non-sexist, prosperous and truly democratic South Africa and who believed in the development of our communities.

Honourable Speaker, in delivering my budget speech I am reminded of the many people in this wonderful Province of ours that start each day determined to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Much of what is done and achieved by these dedicated and patriotic citizens never make the headlines and are seldom acknowledged but I want to start off today by acknowledging and paying tribute to all of those in our province, of all backgrounds, classes, denominations, faiths and cultures that strive to make the world we live in a better place for today's generation and those that will follow.

In outlining my priorities for the 2023 / 2024 financial year I want to start off with the basics by restating the importance of 'Development' in the Sport , Arts and Culture sector.

This means that while a critical part of what we do is to provide various kinds of services and programmes aimed at assisting those in the cultural and creative industry , our community sport clubs and athletes in the context of development- where the development outcome should always be to ensure that the services and funding we provide will lead towards such recipients taking charge of their developmental processes and where the overwhelming reliance on hand-outs from government is lessened over time. *After all, such a process of development is central to addressing our strategic objectives of ensuring a socially cohesive society united in its diverse culture through learning, active participation, support and development of sport, arts and culture and heritage.*

Hourable Speaker, the challenge of sport, arts and culture in this Province is great. While the Provincial Government under the able leadership of the Premier continues to make great strides in meeting and addressing these challenges head on, the journey ahead is still long and complex. The Department is fully aware of its critical role in contributing towards a creative and active society through sport, arts and culture.

As a minimum basket of services the department's duties that describes the variety of services that our customers should get, sport, arts and culture, establishes the tone and caliber of life in every community. We are essential to rebuilding and growing society in accordance with the mandates given to governments by the electorate and as outlined in the ruling party's election manifesto

If effectively used, we play a significant role in every endeavor undertaken by the public and commercial sectors to improve the quality of life for all South Africans, especially those from historically disadvantaged groups. Through the execution of development programmes appropriate for a developing world, of which our province is an important part, we have the responsibility to reconstruct the social fabric of society currently under attack from the triple challenges facing our people namely: Poverty, Unemployment and Inequality.

Honourable Speaker, allow me to pass our deepest and unreserved condolences to the families and friends of our heroes and heroines who contributed in deepening our democracy and advance the promotion of our hard won liberties through civic participation.

We bid farewell to former MEC and National Minister Ms. Tina Joemat Pettersson who passed away on the 05 June 2023.

We also lost seasoned artists Jackson Shuping , Steven Mpadi Bongani Alexander and Mohan Tshweneyaphiri (DJ Megalo) during 2023 and we acknowledge their contribution to the performing arts and music sector, especially their passion to nurture upcoming talent and focus on youth empowerment.

Clive “the Dog” Barker who led and marshaled the first charge after the re-admittance of South Africa into the International Sport fraternity just after 1990. When South Africa won the right to host the African Cup of Nations in 1996 on home soil the National team aptly known as “Bafana Bafana” won and lifted that trophy

Sport and Recreation

Honourable Speaker for the financial year 2023 / 2024, Sport and Recreation programme will receive an allocation of 60 **million 123 thousand rand**.

Speaker we wish to Acknowledge and congratulate the following contributions on the Sport and Recreation terrain in the Province: The best performer Mojalefa Ditshwele from Sishen Athletics Club clocked a time of 6h: 22min:09sec which is the best time amongst all the 131 athletes from the Northern Cape who participated in the Comrades Ultra-Marathon.

This sporting code is one of the fastest growing in the Province, from a mere 5 running clubs over the past five years to nearly 20 clubs registered with both Athletics Griqualand West and North West Cape Athletics which are the Provincial athletics controlling bodies.

We further congratulate Upington City Football Club for winning the ABC Motsepe Football League for the 2022/2023 Soccer season and automatically qualifying to participate in the National First Division league. They join Hungry Lions Football Club who finish fifth on the National First Division League, increasing the number of Provincial based teams campaigning in the elite league to two. Our objective of having a Provincial Football team campaigning in the highest professional Soccer League in the country is about to be realized.

We congratulate Richmond Ladies Football Club on their consistent performance in the highest Women Soccer League in the country the Hollywood Bets National Women's Soccer League for the 2022/2023 season. They have been campaigning in that league for the past three years with the continuous support from the Northern Cape Provincial Government.

We congratulate Northern Cape Cricket for hosting a highly successful One Day International Cricket Tour between South Africa and England. These activities contribute significantly towards Sport Tourism in the Province and we need to consolidate on those gains to strengthen building a Modern, Growing and Successful Province.

We congratulate Dimitri La fleur who was chosen to be part of the South African team that participated at the International Blackball Championship in England.

Honourable Speaker, the promotion and advancement of building a spirited active and winning Nation are the cornerstone of our Democracy. We continue to drive the importance of promoting a healthy lifestyle amongst our communities and young people.

This year we will be hosting the Trailblazer Movement as a result of the outcomes from the 10th edition of the Youth Camp held in 2022. The programme will be piloted in schools within the Frances Baard and John Taolo Gaetsewe Districts namely:

- Wrenchville High School
- Hotazel Combined School
- Dikgatlong High School
- Pampierstad High School

- Mogomotsi High School
- NJ Heys High School

The programme is allocated a total budget of R1 million for the 2023/2024.

The country is currently hyped and excited on the hosting of the Netball World Cup 2023 in the Western Cape, Cape Town from the 28th July to the 6th August 2023. As a build – Up towards this event the country is hosting the World Cup Trophy Tour throughout the Provinces and as the Northern Cape Province we will be hosting the World Cup Trophy Tour from the 24th to the 28th June 2023.

We will receive the Trophy in Hartswater on the 23rd June 2023 from the North West Province and it will be handed over to the Eastern Cape on the 28th June 2023, in Colesberg. The trophy will be touring through all five Districts of the Province starting in Phokwane, Frances Baard and ending in Colesberg, Pixley ka Seme. The programme has been allocated a budget of R800 000.

Honourable Speaker our efforts and awareness creation amongst our people in our fight against Gender Based Violence and Femicide. We launched the Self Defense classes in 2021 in all five Districts of the Province. This initiative was followed by the launch of the Orange Campaign which is a Thursday campaign, supporting the GBV and Femicide by wearing ORANGE every Thursday. This campaign will be finding expression amongst all our programmes with emphasis on deepening the District Development Model. This programme will be accelerated through the intensification of the four Prioritized Sporting Codes in the Province which I pronounced in my Budget Speech for the 2022/ 2023 financial year.

We dedicated our efforts on supporting the following Prioritized Sporting Codes namely: Netball, Football, Rugby and Cricket in ensuring that our fight against Gender Based Violence and Femicide becomes enemy number of our society spear-headed by the Provincial Government. The financial and logistical support will be extended in this regard where each code will receive **R200 000** each for their development programmes aimed at assisting and developing women in sport at a local, District and Provincial level.

Schools Sport is the bedrock towards sport development and towards this end the Department in partnership with the Department of Education will be hosting the Schools Sport Provincial Winter Eliminations comprised by all winners from the five Districts of the Province. Already in excess of 2500 learners have participated in the District Eliminations in preparations for the Provincial eliminations to held in Kimberley from 23rd June to 25th June 2023 and National Championships in July 2023. The programme has been allocated a budget of R4,2 million for the 2023/ 2024 financial year.

Arts, Culture and Heritage

Honourable Speaker for the financial year 2023 / 2024, the Arts Culture and Heritage programme will receive an allocation of 60 **million 339 thousand rand**.

Allow me to take this opportunity to acknowledge the leadership of Cultural and Creative Industries Federation of South Africa, CCIFSA as they were recently elected into office earlier this year. I hope that we will work together to advance the needs of the industry and see to its much development in this province. Our province cannot continue losing our talent to other provinces simply because of disjuncture between government and creatives representatives. Let us work together and pull in one direction. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Tshepo Mtwana for on his appointment as the Northern Cape representative to serve on the National Arts Council. We believe that you will serve the Cultural and Creative Sector with dignity and that the Northern Cape will now find expression in the NAC Programmes.

In February this year I together with my colleagues from National Government as well as the Northern Cape Arts Council convened the Provincial Community Arts Centers Indaba at Horseshoe Inn here in Kimberley. The indaba convened artists from across the Northern Cape was held under the theme “developing grass roots community arts in the Northern Cape.

The plea of arts and culture practitioners cannot be silenced anymore and government cannot remain stoic in the face of the loud cries of cultural creative sector for decent support. Thus, in pursuing plans to respond to an agenda of repositioning arts in the province, attention and dedication will be provided to Community Arts Centre’s by the

appointment of 30 young people for the Young Creatives Programme in the Creative and Cultural Industry. The young creative programme is aimed at mobilizing communities and engaging youth in arts and culture. The youth employed will be invariably responsible to implement arts and cultural activities at community arts Centre's. They will also be responsible to mobilize schools and youth formations to be part of the Youth Creative Programme and activities at the Community Arts Centre's. Each District in the Province will be allocated with 6 Young Creatives and will be remunerated with a monthly stipend of R4 000 per month.

The Department in collaboration with the Department of the Economic Development and Tourism officially opened the first Music Recording Studio at the Northern Cape Theatre in February as well. The official opening marked a watershed moment in the history of music in the Northern Cape as we now have our own studio where will promote local content, diversify audiences, rethink distribution and marketing, and support the evolution of the music industry in our Province. The recording studio will now form part of the many programmes with the objective of understanding that music is a global business, and that it plays a fundamental role in creating employment, it's a tool and avenue to fight poverty and that it is an enabler to provide a decent standard of living for our musicians and professionals in the creative sector. The Music Studio also brings about employment opportunities for a Music Producer, Sound Engineer and a Studio Manager.

Honourable Speaker, allow me to take this opportunity to thank our Honourable Premier Dr. Zamani Saul who have made an enormous contribution to the creative industry. Let me reiterate the Premier's commitment that in honour of the late Jackson Shuping, a performance arts and training session will be held for 30 young artists in the Province. The training will cover the areas of stage management, performance, script writing and then sound and lightning training.

The Mayibuye Centre is regarded as a home and sanctuary for cultural practitioners, musicians, artists, craft specialists and sports people. It is a place where they make memories, be themselves and find refuge. Unfortunately, the state of the theatre has somewhat deteriorated, but however interventions has been put in place, and as announced by the Premier of the Northern Cape Dr. Zamani Saul, earlier this year an

amount of R30 Million will be budgeted for the refurbishment and revamping of the Mayibuye Centre.

Honourable Speaker, this department also has the mandate to organize and host our National Days. Building Social Cohesion among the communities of our beloved province is the heartbeat of the department's business objectives; we are tasked with the important task of nation-building bringing our culturally diverse province together under one identity, that of being a South African. To ensure accessibility to the celebration of our National Days, the commemoration of national days will be circulated among all five districts. In doing so, the department shows its commitment to the implementation of the district development model. In this way, the department ensure local economic beneficiation across all five districts.

HERITAGE AND MUSEUMS

Honourable Speaker, we have re-emphasized the importance of Heritage and Museums within our responsibility to ignite and exhibit the relevance and beauty of our culture in tangible preservations. We do so by celebrating Heroes and Heroines, Repatriation of Remains of fallen Heroes, naming and renaming of public institutions after persons of significance to preserve their legacy as well as celebrating living legends. Our Museums play an important role in society by housing important artifacts and hosting permanent exhibitions that are hubs and cradles of our existence and survival. We want to dispel the notion that they are merely spaces where one goes to observe art, an historical narrative, objects of natural science, or some other curiosity. Museums in the Province have been active in shaping knowledge for years and are always ideologically orientated. They are fundamental in transforming society and uniting the country by the achievement of equal opportunities, of inclusion and redress; and the promotion of social cohesion. They are an institution which honour and celebrate our collective heritage by promoting our diverse cultural identities and preserve the heritage of our people.”

We are delighted to share with you that a Living Legend Ouma Katriena Esau known as Ouma Geelmeit has been awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Literature by University of Cape Town as well as the of Order of Baobab by the Presidency for her role in preserving and promotion of the extinct n! uu language, the matriarch is one of the last

surviving speakers of this indigenous language. Ouma Katriena Esau remains an exemplary dedicated living legend committed to community development, nation building and social cohesion.

Madam Speaker, The Premier Dr. Zamani Saul led a delegation to Angola as a follow up on the Repatriation of Remains of our Fallen Khotso Flatela an Mkhonto we Sizwe combatant are still buried amongst other compatriots in Quibaxhe, Angola requiring extensive scientific and expert skills to recover. As a result of that our national government has adopted a policy of repatriating remains from other countries in mass to save cost, time and also maintain comradeship amongst those families who suffered the same fate of losing their children in foreign land.

The mission was a huge success and provided greater hope to Flatela family that the process of repatriation has not been abandoned and will happen within the plan of action and schedule of Missing Persons task team. We will in 2023 during Heritage day on 24 September 2023 resuscitate the repatriation of remains of Sutherland 9 who were mainly from Stuurman and Abrahams families taken from Kromdraai farm in Sutherland and used as study objects at University of Cape Town for over 99 years ,our intention is to rebury them and restore their dignity and humanity by also erecting tombstones ,a monument and an interpretive centre with the long term objective of declaring a Heritage site to sustain their memory and legacy in Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland .

This programme will precede other impending programmes like the Colesberg 50 whose remains are still kept at IZIKO Museums in Cape Town as soon as families are tracked and found we will undertake a similar programme to repatriate their remains and bury them in dignity. We have also reconnected with the Austrian Government after partnering with in 2012 on the repatriation of Klaas and Trooi Pienaar in Kuruman, we agreed to undertake a project of erecting a monument or interpretative Centre to honour the legacy of Trooi and Klaas Pienaar as soon as we have completed the final agreement we will also complete that project.

We have not abandoned the long awaited renaming of Kimberley and Upington Airports, legislation requires that we undertake massive public participation to consult on proposed names and get consensus from all stakeholders to support this initiative thus far Airports South Africa (ACSA)has provided their consent and support as well as families of the proposed names to be subjected for public participation. We must engage

in a deliberate exercise to transform the Heritage Landscape our province and one such initiative is Naming and Renaming public institutions with appropriate names that instill courage and pride ,we have such undergone consultations to rename Greenpoint library to Dr. Aggrey Klaaste the Editor of Sowetan born and bred in Old Greenpoint but later resettled to Johannesburg because of Forced removals in 1963, we will therefore endeavour to complete that process and formally open the library by naming it Dr. Aggrey Klaaste a befitting honour for his literary contribution to our country and our liberation struggle.

Our Northern Cape Theatre stage has been named Jackson Shuping after his untimely death ,we will also undertake formal consultation within the Arts sector and Northern Cape community to consult on a befitting name for the Northern Cape Theatre and report back to you. Similarly our Head Office at Mervin Erlank Precinct in Florianville got an extension of Provincial Depot we will be naming all the other blocks in honour of deserving citizens within 2023 this will also be extended to our district offices in Namaqua, Pixley ka Seme and Frances Baard on completion of their renovations.

Our Resistance Liberation Heritage Route Feasibility study will conclude by 30 September 2023. We are already partnering with the Department of Economic Development and Tourism on the extension of the existing Upington 26 Monument .We are of the view that history and legacies cannot be edited ,obliterated and obscured hence we are consistently denouncing the act of defacing of monuments as an act that undermines the sacrifices of those Heroes ,our country is renown as an excellent leader in mediation ,dialogue and reconciliation irrespective of our dark past caused by evil Apartheid system we still found it and made it possible to reach a peaceful solution to resolve a conflict that was more than 300 years ago therefore our appeal remains that we must reach out to each other to resolve our dissatisfaction and concerns with dignity and respect without resorting to vandalising and defacing monuments ,these were meant to house & preserve our heritage ,legacy and history for our children the generations to come and reflect, acknowledge and appreciate such contributions.

HERITAGE

Honourable Speaker the Provincial Heritage Authority Integrated Management Plan (IMP) of Richtersveld World Heritage Site which it is In the Final Draft and a workshop will first be conducted before it being signed

We are concluding our discussions with MEC for Agriculture Nature Conservation and Land Reform on the joint Management of the site, whilst handing over the Management Authority function to that Department. This is done as per recommendations of the National Minister of Forestry Fisheries and Environment. This would assist greatly as the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture has been struggling with capacity to fulfill that mandatory function of overseeing the Management Authority of World Heritage site. We are excited on this development and eagerness of counterparts in fulfilling this key and strategic mandate.

MCGREGOR MUSEUM

The McGregor Museum has received funding for GRAP 103 to conduct an audit of all its Heritage assets, we are thankful to Treasury for such a cash injection the process is underway and the service provider is currently assessing the value of the assets and we hope the outcome will finally deliver a clean audit outcome for the institution.

The McGregor Museum will also produce and hoist" I AM a FLAG "Banners in all district museums to the Promote Proud Citizens of South Africa and advance Patriotism.

The McGregor museum in collaboration with Sol Plaatjie University will be hosting in September 2023 a memorial lecture on Sailor Malan the ace fighter pilot and leader of the Torch Commando Forces, who died and is buried in Kimberley.

As we faced the triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and illiteracy, load-shedding and water shortages we must at least provide hope to our communities and ensure that they are safe and build on the same notion of a Peoples Movement for Peoples Power for a Peoples Government .

We must therefore call upon all youth, women, religious groups, civic organizations, CBOs and NGOs and all responsible citizens to rise on an action plan to defend the gains of the liberation struggle and Freedom Charter and act on the slogan "**United We Stand! Divided We Fall**" in doing so we will be giving a befitting recognition to the gains of that massive Peoples Movement that succeeded to defeat the evil Apartheid regime through revolutionary campaigns throughout landscape of South Africa and which

handed over the baton to the Mass Democratic Movement in 1993 and later to the ANC after its unbanning in preparation for governing a non-racial united South Africa.

LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES SERVICES

Honourable Speaker, for the financial year 2023/2024, the Libraries and Archives Programme will receive a total of R192 million 751 thousand.

We will remember that we highlighted the fact that the bulk of the this Programme's budget is received from the Community Libraries Conditional Grant. This state of affairs means that we are entirely dependent on the grant as we seek to ensure the development and transformation of the libraries and archive sectors. We are in the process of engaging Treasury and the various Social Cluster to re-look at the funding model for libraries in the Province as it is not sustainable in its current form.

We continue to receive desperate pleas from Local Municipalities to increase the funding of this function at a local Government level.

Allow me, honourable members to give an update on our progress achieved since our last budget that was tabled in the Namakwa District.

As announced last year, we have now concluded all planning and consultation processes for the construction of the proposed Galeshewe Library. We must also report that the delays experienced were primarily as a result of trying to secure accessible land in Galeshewe.

We worked closely with the Sol Plaatje Municipality as well as the Department of Roads and Public Works to identify a suitable site for the proposed new library. We are hopeful that a contractor will be on site by the third quarter of this financial year.

We are also pleased to report back to this house, that the refurbishment of the Nababeep, Sternham and Hartswater Community Libraries has been completed.

It gives us pleasure to also announce that the contractor for upgrading and conversion of the old Masiza Primary School in Galeshewe has been appointed and is on site already. We hope to complete this project by December 2023 and ensure permanent office space for our Frances Baard District Office. We also report to this house that phase 2 of our Namakwa District Office upgrading in Bergsig was completed.

Honourable Speaker, we have received numerous requests from our various communities in the Province to ensure that our libraries are stocked with new and up to date books. Communities have, for years been raising this matter with us and it pains us that, despite our best efforts, we are still unable to timeously procure the books that they want.

Together with the HOD and his Senior Management Team, we have committed to eliminate all factors that have resulted in us failing to meet our set target as regards the procurement of library materials. Through the measures that have been put in place, we are confident that the process of procuring library materials will continue without delay.

We are further pleased to announce that the Service Provider for the e-Lending service has appointed and we hope to launch this groundbreaking service in the next few months.

Honourable Speaker, in the past few years we reported to this House our difficulties in ensuring that Municipalities receive the transfers without delay. We have had to request roll-overs for the last few financial years because of Municipalities that did not comply with the requirements. This year we are pleased to report to this House that all Municipalities received their complete transfers by the end of the last financial year.

We are pleased with this development and hope to build on this achievement over the next few years. We were also able to successfully host all of our planned library days and continued consolidate our partnerships with local authors, the Department of Education, the Department of Correctional Services, the National Library SA as well as the SA Library for the blind.

We are particularly excited with our partnership with renowned and award-winning Journalist, Author and activist Ms. Zubeida Jaffer. Through this partnership, Ms. Jaffer has offered to donate more than 180 of her books to schools in the Province. We hope to see this partnership grow as we increase our network to ensure the promotion of reading and writing in the Province.

We also hosted a very successful Oral History Conference in Kuruman, JTG District, during October 2022 and were honoured to receive and host guests from all over the Country and the Continent.

Our engagements with the various role-players in pursuit of implementing an e-records system as directed by our Honourable Premier continued during the last financial year. With each engagement, we have come to learn that this task is mammoth and requires us ensure the participation of all role-players, especially National Treasury, DPSA and SITA. We will continue to provide updates to this house on these engagements.

Honourable Speaker, allow me to share our planned programmes for the 2023/ 2024 financial year under Programme 3.

The total allocation for Programme 3 is R192, 751 million. The budget is divided as follows:

R188,6 million for Libraries

R4, 9 million for Archive Services

Honourable Speaker, we intend reaching our target of fully activating 225 libraries in the Province and to also ensure that we develop a long-term plan that will detail a comprehensive network of libraries that will serve each community in our Province.

As indicated honourable members, we will focus our attention on the new proposed Galeshewe Library as we also commence planning and consultation for our next major projects.

Members will also remember that we still have a backlog of two new libraries that must still be constructed in Colesberg and Niekerkshoop. Our engagements with Provincial

Treasury and our colleagues at National DSAC will continue over the next few months to ensure that we bring these two projects to conclusion.

We will also ensure that an additional number of 21 facilities will be maintained during this financial year. In addition to this, we will also be doing the refurbishment of the Churchill Library in the Joe Morolong Municipal area.

A total of R17, 687 *million* is budgeted for our infrastructure and maintenance programme.

Resourcing of our libraries remains one of our key programmes as it is through this programme that we ensure that we pay for our contractual obligations like security services, fleet services, municipal services, etc.

This programme is also responsible for resourcing our community libraries with equipment like computers, photocopiers, furniture, etc. In addition to this, the programme is also responsible for rolling out our library automation project which will ensure that our libraries use automated systems to manage their books, membership and statistics management. Through this programme, an additional 30 libraries will be automated.

The procurement of library materials is one of the key projects under this programme and we anticipate the procurement of 28 000 library material during the financial year.

Honourable members, as announced last year, we will be rolling out free internet and Wi-Fi services to 225 libraries in the Province during this financial year.

A total of R32, 9 million has been set aside for the above programmes.

Turning our attention to our District and Community Library Co-ordination programme, we have budgeted a total of R46,5 million. Through this programme we will be implementing the following programmes:

- ✓ Transfers to 26 Local Municipalities;

- ✓ Transfers to the Sol Plaatje Educational Trust, NCACC and the SA Library for the Blind;
- ✓ Publishing assistance to local Authors;
- ✓ Training of officials
- ✓ Monitoring and Evaluation visits to Districts and Local Municipalities;
- ✓ Consultation meetings with National, Districts and Local Municipalities;

Honourable Speaker, a total amount of R4, 071 million has been allocated for our Provincial Archive Service.

Among others, the following are some of the projects that we will be implementing:

- ✓ Training of 50 Records Managers and Records Management staff;
- ✓ Conducting records inspections at 20 client offices;
- ✓ Ensuring that Departments and Municipalities regularly update their file plans and classification systems;
- ✓ Hosting of the National Archives Awareness Week outreach programme;

As highlighted earlier, one of our biggest mandates, as directed by the Honourable Premier, is to ensure that we develop an electronic records management system for the Province.

Our engagements with SITA, OTP and Provincial Treasury have clearly demonstrated the need to engage and bring on board more stakeholders who will help us make this directive possible.

Honourable Speaker, we recently hosted a very exciting and successful National Archives Week programme in the Province where we hosted the Deputy Minister for Sport, Arts and Culture.

The Archives awareness week programme highlighted to us the need to intensify our efforts as we seek to get more Provincial Departments and Municipalities to transfer their archival records to the Provincial Archives Repository.

The week also highlighted the need for us to invest in the digitization of our Archives materials so as to increase access for researches and communities to archives in our care.

One of the key programmes that we will be engaging in is the Oral History Programme. Through this programme, we hope to capture chapters of our history as told by those who were witness to key events in our Province.

In the next few days we will be issuing public notices calling on all those who wish to give account of what they experienced and what they witnessed to register on a database that the Department will maintain.

We will be focusing on the following areas for the next 18 months:

- ✓ Liberation Armies and underground structures
- ✓ Youth Activist and popular community struggles during the 1970s and 1980s;
- ✓ Cultural and traditional practices of the XUN and Khwe communities, Nama community, Batswana community, Griekwa Community and Xhosa community.

The purpose of the public notices is to ensure that we reach and provide opportunities to as many participants as is possible. This project will clearly indicate to us the extent of the project and what additional resources will be required. We thus call upon all of our communities to register either themselves or those that possess the knowledge and information required.

In conclusion as we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the UNITED Democratic Front(UDF) we must take a leaf and emulate the action plan by rallying our communities from every street corner, community and towns to unite in action and rise against Gender based violence and femicide ,substance abuse ,crime and corruption as well as defeat the cancer of vandalization of state and municipal resources like copper theft .

Honourable Speaker:

Please allow me to present to you the budget Vote 7 for Sport, Arts and Culture 2023/24

The budget for the 2023/ 2024 financial year of the Department totals an amount of **411 million and 690 thousand** allocated as follows:

Administration	98 Million 357 thousand
Cultural Affairs	60 Million 339 thousand
Library and Archive Services	192 Million 751 thousand
Sport and Recreation	60 Million 213 thousand

In conclusion may I take this opportunity to thank the African National Congress and the Premier of the Northern Cape Dr. Zamani Saul for entrusting me, in leading the Northern Cape Department of Sport, Arts and Culture. I would also like to convey my sincere appreciation and gratitude to my fellow Members of Executive Council, the Portfolio Committee for Education Sport, Arts and Culture, Head of Department, Head of Ministry and staff of DSAC, Staff of all DSAC entities and their Boards, The Internal Audit team, Auditor General, Audit Committee and especially my daughters Jamey and Leola for their support and dedication as without you my task over the past three years would have been much more difficult.

I thank you!

Baie dankie!

Ke a leboga!

Enkosi !

