



NORTHERN CAPE

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER | EDITION 13

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE – PREMIER SUPPORTS EDUCATION IN PLATFONTEIN

Today, Premier Dr Zamani Saul visited Xunkwesa Combined School in Platfontein, where he made a powerful intervention to support the Class of 2025.

A donation of **R250 000** was handed over to assist matric learners as they prepare for their final exams, reaffirming the Provincial Government's commitment to quality education and learner success.

The Premier also spent time with the dedicated Early Childhood Development (ECD) practitioners in the community, acknowledging their vital role in laying strong educational foundations.

As a gesture of appreciation, he committed to a once-off donation of **R4,000** to each of the 21 ECD practitioners to support their important work.



Premier Saul hands over R250 000 cheque to Xunkwesa Combined School in Platfontein

These efforts are part of the broader vision to build a Modern, Growing, and Successful Province, starting with meaningful support where it matters most in our schools and early learning centres.

#moderngrowingsuccessfulprovince

#EducationMatters

#InvestInYouth

#NorthernCapeCares

#Matric2025

#ECDSupport





Premier Dr Zamani Saul enters SPU alongside SPU SRC President.

NURTURING YOUNG MINDS, A TASTE OF THE FUTURE.



Matriculants from Pixley ka Seme at Sol Plaatje University.



HOD of Education, Dr Michelle Ishmael giving a motivating talk to the learners.



Dean of Student Affairs, Ms Nicole Morris, encouraging learners to stay committed and hungry.

This week, another powerful initiative aimed at empowering young people was launched. Over 400 matriculants from the Pixley ka Seme District were chaperoned to Sol Plaatje University in Kimberley for the inaugural Nurturing Young Minds excursion, a programme designed to inspire and prepare learners for life beyond high school.

Premier Dr. Zamani Saul, alongside Dean of Student Affairs Ms. Nicole Morris, SRC President Ms. Nonofu Quinton Oliphant, HOD for Education Dr. Michelle Ishmael, District Director Mr. Silingile, and other student leaders, offered powerful words of motivation, encouraging learners to stay focused on education and committed to their goals.

They emphasize the value of Education, with intense focus on completing secondary and tertiary education.

The ‘Nurturing Young Minds’ programme will continue next year as this is a dynamic deed towards intensifying the value of academics within the province.



PAVING THE PATH TO THE NEW ROODEPAN

Premier Dr Zamani Saul introducing the new contractors to the Roodepan Community.

The Premier, alongside MEC for COGHSTA, Mr. Bentley Vass and MEC for Roads and Public Works, Ms. Fufe Makatong, introduced the appointed contractor to the community. With town planning completed, the project has moved into its second phase: installation of civil services, including sewerage, water, electricity, stormwater drainage, and paved or tarred roads.

The project will be completed in three phases;

1. Town planning, (which is already completed)
2. Installation of civil services and
3. Construction of top structures (BNG houses).

With the project being in its second phase and GIC having been appointed and issued with instructions to proceed, work will start with installation of Grade A services such as:

- Sewer
- Water
- Electricity
- Stormwater Drainage
- Paved or Tarred Roads

This project reflects government’s efforts to attend to the needs of the people.



MEC for COGHSTA, Mr. Bentley Vass addressing the Roodepan Community.



Visual overview of the Roodepan housing development equipment on site.



Community members attending the contractor introduction meeting.

STRENGTHENING OF SCHOOLING ENVIRONMENTS, EMPOWERING THE PEOPLE MORE.

This past Friday: Premier, Dr. Zamani Saul together with the MEC responsible for Education, Mr. Abraham Vosloo, on behalf of the Northern Cape Government, initiated the Basic Education Employment Initiative at Roodepan Primary School.

This initiative provides employment opportunities for **4,838** young people across various roles such as:

- Curriculum Assistants
- E-cadres
- Reading Champions
- Care and Support Assistants
- Sport Enrichment Assistants
- Laboratory and Workshop Assistants

An additional **R70,000** was donated to 10 schools each to support learning materials, maintenance, and infrastructure improvements.

This initiative marks another step towards a Modern, Growing & Successful Province. Alongside an empowered youth we will shape a better tomorrow.



Premier Saul addressing learners at the official launch of the BEEI program at Roodepan Primary School.



MEC Vass addressing learners at the official launch of Roodepan Primary School.



Donation handover to school representatives by Northern Cape Government officials.

CLOSE THE 1.1 MILLION GAP IN HIV TREATMENT



MEC for Health Mr Maruping Lekwene addressing community members.

The Northern Cape Department of Health (NCDOH) started closing the treatment gap in the province by targeting the engagement, re-engagement and retention of 1.1 million individuals on Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) by December 2025.

The Northern Cape MEC for Health Mr. Maruping Lekwene underscored the urgency of closing the treatment gap and ensuring that no one is left behind in the province's HIV response

“MEC Lekwene emphasised that the campaign is not just about recovering patients, but about building a system that sees and supports all

individuals,” he concluded.

NCDOH has made significant progress in expanding HIV treatment. The Campaign prioritises men, youth and children, who are disproportionately affected by treatment initiation and/or disengagements and barriers to healthcare access.

Service Delivery Strengthened in Batharos

In a strong show of government in action, the Northern Cape MEC for Social Development, Honourable Ms. Nontobeko Vilakazi, led a successful Integrated Community Registration Outreach Programme (ICROP) at Batharos Community Hall in the John Taolo Gaetsewe District this week.

The outreach, hosted in partnership with SASSA, brought together various government departments and partners under one roof to deliver essential services directly to the community. These included SASSA grant assistance, support from the SIOC Community Development Trust, SAPS, financial services, and health and social support offerings.

In her address, MEC Vilakazi described ICROP as a bold statement that government is present and responsive. ***“We are not making promises - we are delivering services, restoring dignity, and reaffirming rights,”*** she said.

Acting Regional Executive Manager, Ms. Karabelo Mojanaga noted, ***“This is what responsive service delivery looks like, meeting people where they are, with dignity and purpose.”***

A local beneficiary, Ms. Kelebogile Mofokeng, expressed gratitude, saying that thanks to ICROP, she didn't have to pay for transport to access help with government services.

ICROP continues to embody government's commitment to accessible, people-centred service delivery across rural and under-served communities.



MEC Vilakazi, Kgosi Toto and Ms. Karabelo Mojanaga at the Batharos Community Hall.



Community members accessing support services from various departments.



Community members with MEC Vilakazi and AREM Ms. Karabelo Mojanaga.



SAPS, SASSA and other partners offering on-site assistance.



INTERNATIONAL
AIDS
Candlelight
Memorial Service

HONOURING LIVES, RENEWING COMMITMENT

Annually, on the third Sunday of May, an International AIDS Candlelight Memorial is hosted. This serves a significant moment to remember those lost to HIV/AIDS, support people living with HIV, and recommit to ending stigma and discrimination.

In collaboration with the South African Police Service (SAPS), a candlelight memorial was hosted, which brought together key partners including the Department of Health, Department of Sports Arts and Culture and Traditional Health Practitioners.

This week, ZF Mgcawu HAST Team led impactful

awareness and education activities, reinforcing the importance of closing the 1.1 million HIV treatment gap and strengthening HIV/STI prevention strategies.

A special moment of recognition was the Grand Award presented to a dedicated former peer educator, in appreciation of their contributions to the fight against HIV/AIDS. A heartfelt vote of thanks was delivered by Major General Sebili, who acknowledged the contributions of all stakeholders.

“We Remember. We Rise. We Lead.”



Participants at the ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Youth Zone activation.

This past Friday we marked a significant milestone in activating the Youth Zone Service at Delportshoop Clinic, Dikgatlong Sub District! An initiative of compassion in creating a safe and welcoming environment for young people to access essential services.

The Youth Zone package offers :

- ✦ Sexual and Reproductive Health
- ✦ HIV support
- ✦ Pregnancy Support
- ✦ Mental Health assistance
- ✦ Healthy Lifestyle guidance
- ✦ Violence and Sexual Assault support
- ✦ Injuries and minor ailments care
- ✦ Immunization

Recognising the importance of Youth access to quality Health Care, commitments have been made to ensure ongoing access to these services for young people.

Special thanks were extended to Love Life and the IEC for their support in launching this impactful initiative, a step toward a healthier, youth-empowered future.

Youth Zone Launched at Delportshoop Clinic



Staff observing the clinic's youth-friendly services in action.



Love Life and IEC representatives engaging youth attendees.

Youth and Environment Month Sparks Sustainability and Entrepreneurship in the Northern Cape

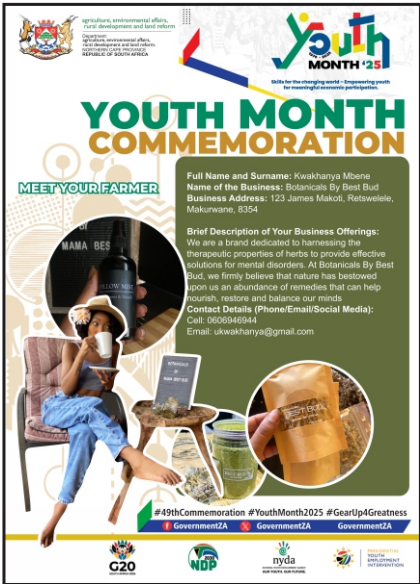
On 20 June 2025, the spirit of youth empowerment and environmental stewardship came alive in Roodepan as MEC Mase Manopole, joined by Sol Plaatje Municipality's Acting Executive Mayor Councillor Diteko Dioka, led a vibrant Youth and Environment Month commemoration. The day's festivities underscored a collective commitment to building a greener, more sustainable future, with young people at the forefront.

Hosted by the Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform, the event featured an engaging programme that included a Cleaning and Greening Campaign, a Veterinary Outreach Service, and a

lively Youth Market Day. These initiatives aimed to foster active citizenship while offering young entrepreneurs the opportunity to showcase their agricultural ventures and innovative ideas.

From fresh produce to poultry, the Youth Market Day was a celebration of talent, passion, and the entrepreneurial spirit thriving in the Northern Cape.

The department extends its heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to the success of this meaningful event, proving that with collaboration and dedication, sustainable communities are not just possible, but already taking root.



KWAKHANYA MBENE
Botanicals By Best Bud
(Retswelele, Makurwane)

Kwakhanya blends nature and wellness through her herbal brand, Botanicals By Best Bud. Her business is dedicated to using natural remedies to support mental health, embracing the healing power of plants to nourish and balance the mind.



RELEBOGILE DIRADINGOE
Leago's Pork Production (Ritchie)

Relebogile has been steadily building her pig farming enterprise since 2021. Driven by a love for farming and a vision to supply local businesses with quality meat, she's a determined entrepreneur with big dreams for expansion and recognition.



CHARMAINE HORRING
Buddy's Poultry (Delporthoop)

Charmaine's passion for poultry is evident in her hands-on approach to broiler chicken farming. With a focus on bio-security and structured feeding regimens, Buddy's Poultry produces high-quality birds ready for market in just 42 days - a great example of efficiency and care in farming.



REFILWE MUTHUDI
Lesedi Laka Organic Produce
(Vergenoeg, Kimberley)

Refilwe's farm is a model of sustainable agriculture. At Lesedi Laka Organic Produce, she grows fresh vegetables like spinach, carrots, cabbage, and beetroot, using only organic methods. She also repurposes crop waste into chicken feed and fertilizer, proving that zero-waste farming is both practical and profitable.

Kalksloot Rallies Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

MEC for Social Development, Ms. Nontobeko Vilakazi and the MEC for the Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison, Ms. Dimakatso Koloi, marked the **International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Kalksloot.**

The event highlighted the links between substance abuse, crime, gender-based violence, and youth unemployment. MEC Vilakazi emphasised the urgent need to invest in prevention, calling for strengthened Local Drug Action Committees and community resilience. MEC Koloi reflected on the province’s progress, noting that Rosedale Police Station is no longer a national crime hotspot, but warned that safety must extend beyond statistics, especially for women and children.

Youth empowerment, trauma-informed care, and inter-departmental collaboration were central themes. Community voices, including SAPS and a rehabilitated ex-offender, called for action and healing. This initiative aligns with the 7th Administration’s ongoing commitment to integrated service delivery and social renewal, reminding young people: “You have the power to resist and rise.”



Attendees at the Kalksloot rally against drug abuse and illicit trafficking



MEC Vilakazi addressing attendees



MEC Koloi addressing attendees