



Province of the
Northern Cape
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



NORTHERN CAPE

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

WEEKLY

FRIDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2020

FOREWORD | PREMIER DR. ZAMANI SAUL |

We begin this edition on a rather sombre note in that barely a few days ago we learnt of the passing on of one of the most colossal figures in our fight for a constitutional democracy in the form and stature of George Bizos, one of the foremost legal minds this country has ever produced and a humanitarian extraordinaire.

As we celebrate Advocate Bizos remarkable contribution to the country's body politic and his implinching role in contributing to a just society, we extend our collective gratitude to his immediate family for sharing this great soul with us.

The second quarter Gross Domestic Product Statistics released by Stats'SA during the week were a clear indication that the South African economy, as most other countries, is currently on a steep economic downward slope. **COVID-19** has severely affected the global and local economy and as a Province, the Northern Cape is a consumer, primary producer and exporter and will thus both benefit and be simultaneously jeopardised by exchange rate volatility. It is optimistically foreseen that we will also recover in line with key global markets and consumers of our produce.

COVID-19 has been a hurdle yet not an insurmountable setback for the Northern Cape and with the necessary, creativity, innovation, modernisation and dedicated focus, growth and success beckons on the horizon.

We have on a number of occasions emphasised the importance of working together with the Private Sector to help the poor and the marginalised in the province from the devastating effects of **COVID-19** and we are grateful to all those who have walked this journey together with many communities throughout the Northern Cape. In a short while I will also launch an exciting new programme for SMME's, one in which we hope will get our province on an even greater growth trajectory.

I also welcome the donation of R1 million from the Embassy of the Peoples Republic of China to boost **COVID-19** relief efforts in our schools. The donation, which was received by the Minister of Basic Education, Mrs Angie Motshegka will benefit 2821 learners in 7 schools in the Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality.

Until our next edition I trust that we will all continue to wear our masks at all times, maintain social distance, wash our hands with soap and water for atleast 20 seconds or sanitize.



JW Sauer Building, Cnr Roper and Quinn Street, Kimberley



+27 53 838 2600



info@ncpg.gov.za



<http://www.northern-cape.gov.za>



GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT CONTRADICTIONS: AS IT RELATES TO THE NORTHERN CAPE

The South African GDP fell by over 16% between the first and second quarters of 2020, giving an annualised growth rate of -51%. As a comparison: in 2009 quarter 1, during the global financial crisis, a contraction of 6,1% was recorded. This is the biggest fall since 1960! At R654 billion (not annualised) this was the lowest level of production since the first quarter of 2009 when the economy generated R649 billion.

Since 2006, the Northern Cape economy has trended the South African economy, but was always slightly higher. This was enabled by a strong primary sector, inhibited by a limited secondary sector enabling the biggest GDP contributor: the tertiary sector. **COVID-19** rewrote the rules though: globally the hardest hit was the secondary and the tertiary sectors following suit in South Africa and thus the Northern Cape.

Our economic salvation is still our primary sector that was inhibited, but is currently operational again.

The seasonality of the agriculture sector especially in-terms of export produce and the local absorption in terms of key produce i.e. the meat sector (although price volatility) has remained intact and with peak season in quarter 3 and 4 will definitely change the picture will definitely change.

The mining sector remained well intact, especially key commodities for the Northern Cape linked to production contracts i.e. iron ore and manganese. Initial contraction has been replaced with increased demand as global economies start-up and consumer demand is re-ignited.

This is evident from the Chinese and German economy where the downward slope in their economies is slowly moving into patterns of fall and recovery towards a stable demand and thus improved production profile.

A constant production curve for the Independent Power Producers was also in place and the relation of this industry and mining is

that both have legislated and well regulated corporate social responsibility programmes.

With production and, thus, turnover in place these companies will have to continuously attend to their operational demands and social responsibility commitments ensuring they continue to have a socio-economic local impact locally. The real blow to date was the tourism industry, retail and recreation.

This pinch is felt right now and is slowly on the mend, but will take 2 to 3 years to recover to its previous levels of GDP contribution and will have a definite participant contraction.

A key tertiary sector contributor is the Government (Community Services) and with the fiscal shortfall following the reduced SARS collection, will thus have a definite impact on government expenditure and clear measures of optimisation of Value for Money as per the **Batho Pele** principles will be required.



Northern Cape
Department of Education



2021 LEARNER ADMISSION ONLINE APPLICATION

<http://www.ncdoeadmissions.org>

14 - 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

The Northern Cape Department of Education will be going live with the **2021 Online Admission** system from **14-30 September 2020**. We encourage all Parents/Legal Guardians to make use of the online admission system to apply for your child and secure his/her space at a public ordinary school for the 2021 School Academic year.

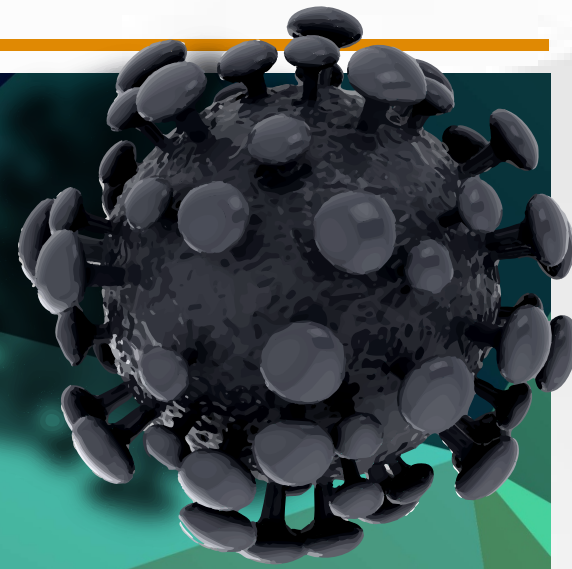
The system will go live on **Monday, 14 September 2020**, at 09h00, when Parents/Legal guardians can start applying. We would like to appeal to the public at large, to apply on your own, before making use of the identified **Walk-In Centres** per District. The Online Admission system is user friendly and will guide the applicant step by step until your application is complete.

You can access <http://ncdoeadmissions.org> either from a Smartphone, Laptop or Tablet to apply online.





COVID-19 RECOVERY STORY



I'm Jerrica Linden, aged 40, and recently my whole family tested positive for **COVID-19**.

My husband, Thurstan also aged 40, tested positive at first. He is working as a Pharmacist. With him, our middle daughter Joeke, aged six, also tested positive after being tested on the 16th August, a day after her dad had tested. At that point, my eldest daughter, Thylia, then aged 9, and myself tested negative.

As a mom, I took a decision to do what I can in terms of isolation, but I mentally prepared myself to get the Virus. I mean, how do I completely isolate myself from my 6 year old daughter? She needs help with her hair, brushing teeth etc, and she is a hugger, when it comes to saying good night, or good morning. So I made a Mommy decision, that I will take the "bullet" for my daughter. I was however worried, because my husband had all the symptoms. Fever, sore throat, body pains, dry cough. He had a difficult time.

As a mom of a one-year old boy as well, I wasn't sure what to expect, especially after eventually testing positive three days after my husband and middle daughter. I have comorbidities, just like my husband but myself and my daughters were asymptomatic, thank goodness! So I felt fine most of the time. As an asthmatic, I started to have breathing challenges, but my husband was starting to improve, so he could attend to our children.

We had wonderful support from family, colleagues and friends who delivered meals and groceries. I've come to realise that a stigma of "shame" and ignorance is evident, as some people told me, "**Aaawh what a tragic thing that happened to your family**", or "**Dont worry, we won't tell anyone**". I publicly announced our status.

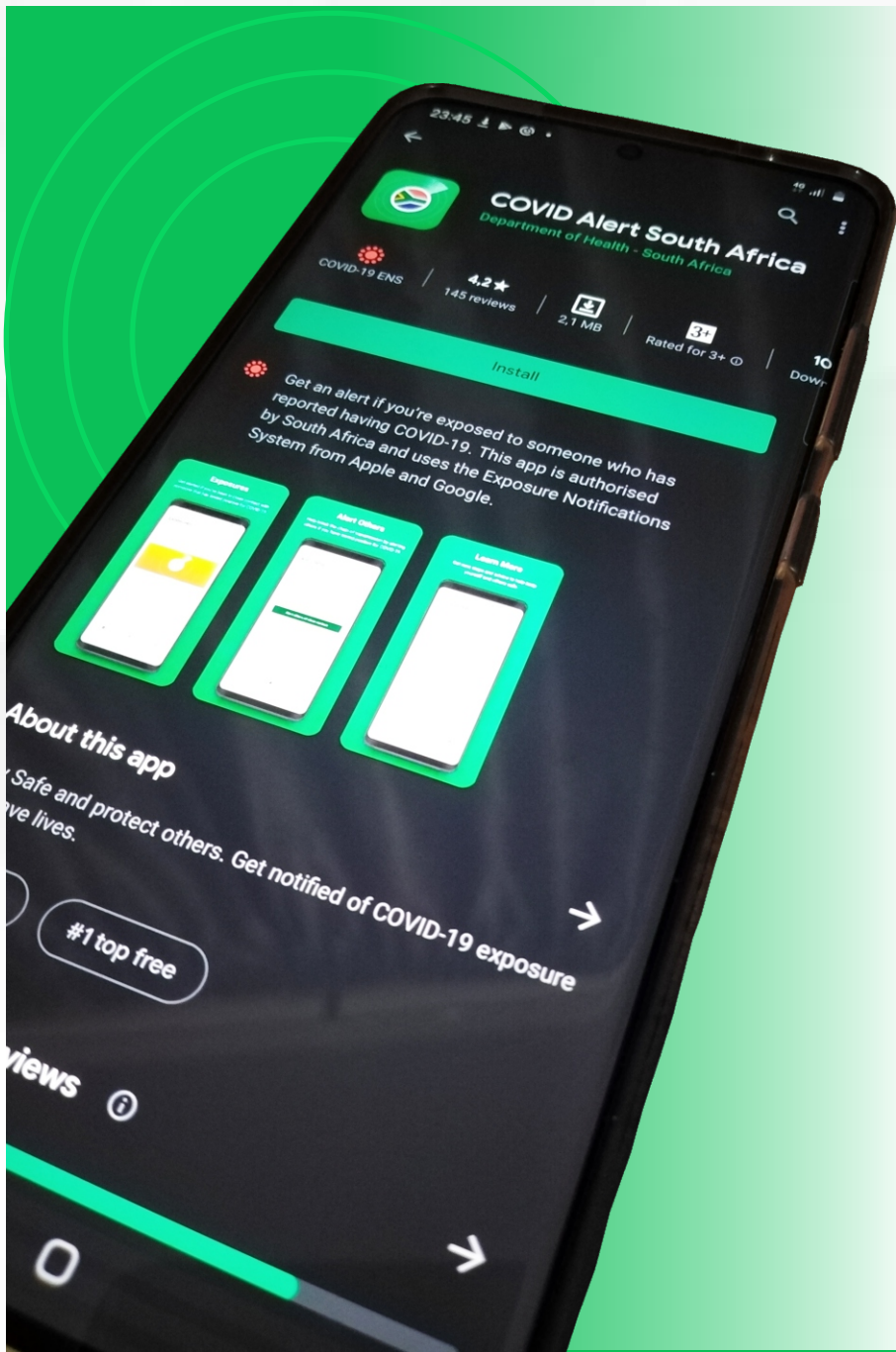
People should not hide their status. In my line of work, as an Environmental Health Practitioner, it eases circumstances and ensures effective contact tracing, in order to curb the virus. I had to comfort people calling me because in their minds, being COVID positive is deadly and the worst thing possible to happen to anybody. I prayed that they are never diagnosed with **COVID-19**.

Our attitude towards our situations gave us a mental advantage. My eldest daughter, who also tested positive with me, made quarantine notes, for doors, rooms and marked everyone's cutlery. People live recklessly during this pandemic and simply say "**God is bigger than Covid**", and yes, I agree, He is, but He helps those who help themselves. I saw my eldest daughter's status on Whatsapp, about being positive and in isolation, and friends asked her how it was, and she responded, "**It's like the flu, I guess, so not so bad**".

As a family we said we will beat this. And we did. We are believers, but we are not ignorant. We did what we could, we sanitized, rested, took our Vitamin boosters, pain meds and we isolated ourselves completely from the outside world.

THE WORST THING FOR ME?

It must have been that my eldest daughter turned 10 during isolation. As a family we celebrate and sing on birthdays. Her dad had his worst day on her birthday. I still managed to bake her cake, and sing Happy Birthday alone, with shortness of breath. We are grateful because her birthday turned out special, and we turned out fine. We are blessed. A lot of people prayed for us and for that we are forever grateful. We did what we could. God did the rest.



COVID ALERT APP

The Department of health has introduced the **COVID Alert App SA**, an entirely anonymous App, which protects your privacy and security at all times, the App is free and lets you know when you have been in contact with someone who has tested positive.

This App helps us to work together to stop the spread of **COVID-19** using Bluetooth Contact-Tracing Technology which simply tracks close contact between Smartphones, and not the actual location of a Smartphone.

USE THE COVID ALERT SA APP TO PROTECT YOU, YOUR LOVED ONES AND YOUR COMMUNITY.

Online courses available for self-registration and enrolment to self-register and enrol in available courses, follow these steps:

1. Go to the **NSG** website (<https://www.thensg.gov.za/>)
2. Click on "Open **eLearning** courses" under the **eLearning** tab on the **NSG** website.
3. Follow the on-screen instructions to register an online profile (if you have not done so yet).
4. Enrol in the available **eLearning** course/s of your choice. If you are new to online learning, do **Getting Started with eLearning** first.

This is a short intervention that prepares you to participate in an online course. **Getting Started with eLearning** appears in the list of available **eLearning** courses.



GBV CONTACT DETAILS

Know and share these contact details:

GBV Command Centre:
0800 428 428 / *120*7867# from any cell phone
Persons with disabilities, SMS 'help' to 31531

Women Abuse Helpline:
0800 150 150

Child Line:
0800 055 555

SAPS Crime Stop:
0860 10111

GBVF-Related Service Complaints (SAPS):
0800 333 177/complaintsnodalpoint@saps.gov.za

National AIDS Helpline:
0800 012 322

National Human Trafficking Helpline:
0800 222 777

Suicide Helpline:
0800 567 567

National Department of Health:
<https://www.health.gov.za>

National Institute of Communicable Diseases:
<https://www.nicd.ac.za>

World Health Organisation:
<https://www.who.int>