



“Towards a Modern, Growing, and Successful Northern Cape”

NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL BULLETIN:

Issue 06

INTRODUCTION

The Northern Cape Provincial Executive Council convened its ordinary meeting virtually on 25 August 2021. The meeting was held a day after Statistics SA released its Quarter 2, Quarterly Labour Review force survey which has painted a bleak picture as it relates to unemployment in the Country and the Province. Of great concern is the effects of unemployment on young people. With the youth constituting more than a third of the population of our province, youth unemployment has become a major challenge that has to be overcome. Exco in their deliberations noted that it is important to continue our efforts of skilling the youth of the province so that they have a better chance of being employed. Exco resolved that as a Province we need to, with urgency, create strategic and innovative ways to create jobs for young people.

GREEN HYDROGEN IN THE PROVINCE

The Northern Cape is strategically positioned to be an export production and distribution gateway for Green Hydrogen in South Africa and the world.

Exco. resolved to work with multiple stakeholders to ensure that we maximise the full benefits of Green Hydrogen in the Province, and further took a decision on the establishment of the Northern Cape Green Hydrogen Task Team which would include different Provincial and National departments, Municipalities as well as Eskom and Transnet.

SQUARE KILOMETER ARRAY (SKA)

The Departments of Science and Innovation and Higher Education, the South African Radio Astronomy Observatory, the National Research Foundation are spearheading the national effort towards the building of the SKA. There has been a considerable amount of progress made at the site, which was noted by Exco. These include the MeerKAT extensions from 64-84 dishes, which will see local SMME's benefiting. Exco. further noted the long-term agreement signed by SARAQ with SEFA, SEDA, and the Northern Cape SMME Trust on assisting SMME's with training, applications in document completion as well as low-interest financial assistance. This will go a long way in ensuring that we lessen the burden on SMME's and cushion them against the devastating effects of COVID-19.

THE TAXI RELIEF FUND

To mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the transport sector, the National Department of Transport has made available an amount of One Billion, One Hundred, and Thirty-Five Million Rands for the sector across the country. The Department of Transport, Safety, and Liaison will assist taxi operators throughout the province to ensure that they comply with the requirements to benefit from the Taxi Relief Fund. The department is responsible for the implementation, monitoring, and reporting of the disbursements that will be made by the taxi relief fund in the Province.

NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCIAL TEACHERS AWARDS

In an effort to appreciatively acknowledge the extraordinary efforts made by teachers, Exco resolved to support this year's Provincial Teaching Awards which is envisaged to take place in early September 2021.

IN CONCLUSION

During September, Government will celebrate Tourism month, the sector which has been negatively affected by COVID-19 is slowly recovering. Exco noted the plans of the Department to market the Northern Cape as a tourism destination.

There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted and negatively affected life as we know it and in order to ensure that we save as many lives as possible and return to normality, Government is administering vaccines to all South African Adults. These vaccines are currently being administered on a voluntary basis and are safe. All Community members are encouraged to visit one of the vaccination sites across the province to ensure that they get vaccinated, vaccines saves lives.



TOURISM & HERITAGE MONTH



To subscribe, email us at: info@ncpg.gov.za

SUBSCRIBE

Enquiries: Monwabisi Nkompela
Head of Government Communications
071 109 2776



“Towards a Modern, Growing, and Successful Northern Cape”