

City scoops three Municipal Excellence Awards

The City of uMhlathuze shone at the KwaZulu-Natal Municipal Excellence Awards, hosted by the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta) earlier this month, when it was recognised as the Best Municipality: Basic Service Provision and Best Municipality: Innovative Infrastructure and won prize money of R1 million.

In addition, at the gala awards ceremony held at Durban's International Convention Centre, the Municipality also received a much-coveted award having received a clean audit for the 2012/2013 financial year.

Council Speaker Mvuseni Mqayi said: "We are humbled by our achievements and would like to thank all our stakeholders, including business and the religious formations, for monitoring us and providing constructive criticism as this identifies the areas on which we need to focus and drives us to perform better."

He also commended officials and councillors on the strong working relationship that exists. "We have our challenges, such as with the implementation of our capital budget, which we are busy addressing and hoping to improve upon, but as a collective we are working well together for the benefit of our communities."

Municipal Manager, Dr Nhlanhla Sibeko said: "These awards are very exciting because it is an indicator that we are on the right track, especially when one considers that we have also received Green Drop status for our eNseleni, Ngwelezane and KwaDlangezwa Waste Water Treatment Works; we have retained our Blue Flag status at Alkantstrand for the 2014/2015 season and our Integrated Development Plan was assessed as the third best out of the 61 municipalities in the province. In addition, just a few months ago, we won two Govan Mbeki Awards for Human Settlements."



He added that the Municipality has been acknowledged by the National Department of Finance for having a budget that is "credible, funded and relevant" and, in this regard, the City's Chief Financial Officer, Mxolisi Kunene, has received recognition from the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) for his financial management and the key role he played in assisting the municipality to achieve a clean audit.

"These awards and the recognition is a great motivator because we don't want to be complacent as a Municipality. We need to keep improving and strive towards being a great Municipality for our people," he said.

A business plan will now be prepared to consider how best to spend the R1 million prize money to further the Municipality's service provision.



Winning streak! Proudly displaying the trophies and certificates presented to the City of uMhlathuze at the annual KwaZulu-Natal Municipal Excellence Awards are Municipal Manager, Dr Nhlanhla Sibeko; Deputy Mayor, Zethu Gumbi and Council Speaker, Mvuseni Mqayi.

Kwesekelwa Imisebenzi Yezolimo Emihlanu Emawodini Amahlanu

Imisebenzi yezolimo yemiphakathi emihlanu yemukele impahla yokusebenza kanye nezinto ezihambisana nokulima okubalelwa kuma R14 000 ngamunye ukuze isizakale ekuthuthukiseni ezomnotho wayo njengabakhiqizi bezitshalo abasafufusa.

Lokhu kuhambisana neNqubo-mgomo yoMnotho weNdawo yoMkhandlu obalula isidingo sokuba uMasipala asekele akhombe indlela ekuthuthukiseni ingxenye yezolimo.

Ekhuluma emcimbini wokunikezelwa kwalempahla, uSomlomo woMkhandlu-Dolobha uMvusi Mnyazi wakhuthaza abantu ukuba baziqhenye bona uqobo nangamagugu abo. Wathi, "Lokhu kungafezeka ngokuba kutshalwe izitshalo bese zithengiswa eMakethe yeziTshalo eziNtsha yasoThungulu esEmpangeni."

Wenzelela ngokuthi yizitshalo ezisezingeni elingu A ezithengiswa emakethe nanokuthi abameleli balelo naleloqembu bayothola uqeqesho lokuthi bangafinyelela kanjani kulelizinga eliphezulu kanti loloqeqesho bayolithola eMnyangweni wezoLimo, osebenzisana kakhulu noMkhandlu mayelana nalezizinhlelo.

Lemisebenzi yezolimo yoMkhandlu-Dolobha yaqala ngo2008 kanti isibeyimpumelelo yezinhlangano zobuMbano eziningi zaleliDolobhakazi.

UKhansela uMnyazi wathi, "UMkhandlu ngesabelo-mali sawo uyaqiniseka ukuthi imisebenzi yokuthuthukisa ezomnotho enjengalena isiwa emiphakathini etshengisayo ukuthi ingakwazi ukukhiqiza imfino ngosizo elutholayo.

Lemisebenzi emihlanu eyacela usizo kuMasipala ibandakanya: iVukuzithathe eseWodi 1 enamalungu ayisithupha, iHlanganyela eseWodi 10 enamalungu ayi-10, iBazook eseWodi 23 enamalungu angama 33, iVukuzenzele eseWodi 25 enamalungu ayi-10 kanye neSukumani eseWodi 29 enamalungu ayisikhombisa.

Ngaphambi kokuba kunikezelwe ngezithombo zokutshalwa kanye nempahla yokusebenza abeNxeke yokuSekela amaBhizinisi, iziMakethe nezokuVakasha engaphansi koMnyango wokuThuthukiswa kweDolobha baphuma bayohlola lemisebenzi emihlanu ukuze naqiniseke ukuthi ikhona nanokuthi imbala iyasebenza.

Umsebenzi ngamunye wemukele: amabhala amabili, amakani okunisela ayi-10, izimfologo ezinhlanu, izimfologo zezandla ezinhlanu, amakhuba ayi-10, ohesha abahlanu, isimanzi, umanyolo, ivundela, isibulala-zihlahlana, isibulala-zinambuzane, imbewu yotamati, imbewu yesipinashi, imbewu yolethusi, imbewu yobhithiluthi, imbewu yezaqathi, imbewu yopelepele oluhlaza, imbewu yo-anyanisi, imbewu yeklabishi, imbewu yobhathanathi kanye neyobhontshisi oluhlaza.

Zonke lezipahla zazihlolwa yilungu elikhethiwe lalelo naleloqembu bese lisayinela ukuzamukela nokuziqikelela. Kuyolokhu ivakashelwa lemisebenzi ukuze ihlolwe ukuthi iqhubeka kahle nengempumelelo.

E: Five community agricultural projects received agricultural equipment and supplies to the value of R14 000 each to further assist in their economic development as small scale commercial vegetable growers.



Abameleli bemiphakathi emihlanu bemukela impahla yokusebenza nezinto zokutshala kuSomlomo uKhansela uMvusi Mnyazi kanye neKhansela leWodi 29, uPrince Mathenjwa.



Amalungu ezinhlangano zobumbano zezolimo ezinhlanu ayechichima yinjabulo ngenkathi emukela impahla yokusebenza, umanyolo, imbewu yokuba baqhubeka nezivande zemifino yawo.

Register on the City's short-code SMS system

The public is reminded of the new short-code SMS system implemented by the City of uMhlathuze in its Finance Department. Please update your cell numbers to ensure that you receive future messages from the Finance Department. These messages include credit control warning messages before your electricity is disconnected or before your water is restricted. It is also planned that in future, updates of your monthly account could also be sent via SMS.

To ensure success of these initiatives it is important that you update your cell number with the Municipality by sending an SMS with your account number to 44310. A standard SMS rate, as charged by your network, applies.

Your cell number will then be recorded on your municipal account profile and you will be able to receive the SMS messages as detailed above.

City shines as host of the IERM Convention

The City of uMhlathuze pulled out all the stops when it hosted the 2014 Institute of Environment and Recreation Management (IERM) Convention, from 29 September to 1 October, putting the City on the map as a professional and welcoming venue.

About 200 delegates attended the convention including various stakeholders: experts/managers within the fields of eco-tourism, landscaping, horticulture, environmental education and planning, nature conservation, recreation, urban planning and greening, cemeteries and crematoria, councillors and others from engineering, scientific and architectural professions, all forming part of the integrated environment.

Delegates had an intensive two days of presentations with keynote addresses by James McCulloch, the Chief Executive of Nene Park Trust in Petersborough, United Kingdom who spoke about sustaining the value of parks and green space, as well as Collins Adjei Mensah from the University of the Cape Coast in Ghana who gave insights from selected African cities into the nature and challenges of urban green spaces in Africa.

Other interesting presentations were centred around the planning of public parks, the implementation of a sustainable recreation programme for local government, the safe use of greywater for irrigation purposes in home gardens, evaluating the potential role of green spaces in South Africa's growing eco-tourism industry, and how to develop youth leadership for the implementation of recreation programmes using Camp Cape Town as a case study.

In his welcoming address, Mayor Elphas Mbatha gave delegates an overview of the City and what it has to offer in terms of infrastructure and its natural environment. He said that parks have an important role to play in reducing stress and obesity, which are common ailments of modern society. They can also be used to encourage social interaction and promote social cohesion.

As part of the convention programme the City also hosted a mayoral gala dinner at the Protea Hotel Waterfront and on the last day delegates were taken on a tour in and around the City including a yacht cruise around the Richards Bay Harbour and a traditional braai at eSikhaleni.



Seen at the IERM Convention were (from left): Jean Venter (IERM Secretariat), Cllr Louis Fourie (Deputy Chairperson of Community Services Portfolio, City of uMhlathuze), Gert Bam (outgoing IERM President, City of Cape Town), Ernst van Biljon (Head of Environmental and Recreation Section, City of uMhlathuze), Desiree Galant (IERM President, City of Cape Town) and James McCulloch (Chief Executive, Nene Park Trust).

Goggles to light the way to extended service provision

The Richards Bay Airport is to see increased night flights by KZN Red Cross Air Mercy Services (AMS) with the recent introduction of night vision goggles (NVG).

The hi-tech innovation of NVGs was initially developed to be used by the military but have now been introduced by the KZN Department of Health to extend its hours of response to emergency medical situations.

At the launch of the NVG system at Richards Bay Airport, Premier Senzo Mchunu, said this innovation is going to have a positive impact on the many remote rural communities that the AMS were previously unable to reach after dark.

The goggles, which amplify light by 10 000 times, enable pilots and crew of AMS helicopters to clearly see the terrain they are covering at night and promotes safe landings to load or offload serious medical emergency cases, ensuring the best possible healthcare for the patient.



MEC for Health, Sibongiseni Dhlomo and Premier Senzo Mchunu are respectively assisted by Dr S'bongile Zungu (HOD Department of Health) and AMS RW Pilot Sarel Hofmeyer into the night vision goggles for them to test the improved visibility they bring pilots and crew enabling extended emergency medical flights from the Richards Bay Airport. (Photo courtesy Zululand Observer).

Two new outdoor advertising contracts awarded

The City of uMhlathuze has awarded two new outdoor advertising contracts that will generate approximately an additional R320 000 per annum in revenue for Council.

In a first for Empangeni, Outdoor Network has been awarded a contract to install and manage a 3m x 6m illuminated billboard in Main Road, Empangeni. The billboard will be in keeping with the modern advertising trend while also being neater.

The second contract, to manage the indoor television screens in the municipal buildings, has been awarded to Meghan Botha. Currently television screens are in municipal offices in eSikhawini, two in Richards Bay and two in Empangeni. As part of the contract additional television screens will be installed in Ngwelezane and eNseleni. Ms Botha has 15 other outlets throughout the City that make use of television screens for advertising purposes so those who choose to advertise on the television screens will also have access to these additional outlets.

The Municipality has grown its outdoor advertising portfolio with the following projects: LED screens, indoor television screens, litterbin advertising, street pole advertising, illuminated street signs, billboards, city lights and prime lights (illuminated street lights), composite signs, taxi rank branding, static billboards, temporary advertising (posters, banners and trailers) and permanent advertising.

During the 2013/2014 financial year outdoor advertising generated income of R2,7 million for Council.

Future projects include providing bus shelters, with space for third party advertising, on popular routes as well as providing additional illuminated ground signs.

Contact the City's Outdoor Advertising Officer, Shernon Murray, on 035 907 5401 should you be interested in making use of outdoor advertising for your business.

Water users urged to conserve as drought continues

The City of uMhlathuze has wasted no time in drafting and implementing a Water Shortage Turnaround Strategy for the entire municipal area to manage the water crisis that has unfolded in recent weeks due to prolonged drought conditions.

The Strategy was presented to a Special Council meeting at the end of September by Deputy Municipal Manager: Infrastructure and Technical Services, Tumelo Gopane, who outlined the desperate situation in which the City finds itself.

At the end of September the Lake Mzingazi was 26.5% of its capacity, which is the lowest level recorded at the Lake since April 2012 when it reached 50%.

"We are almost at the point where we must stop abstraction because the Mzingazi Water Treatment Works has an operating limit of 1,1m above mean sea level and currently the Lake level is 0,765m above mean sea level. To operate below 0,9m places us at greater risk of salt water intrusion," Mr Gopane explained. Close observation of the Lake for key indicator parameters to monitor for any sea water intrusion has been done and all the analysis performed were found to be within acceptable limits indicating no sea water intrusion has been experienced in the Lake.

Mzingazi Water Treatment Works is currently not in operation due to the low level of Lake Mzingazi, which also negatively impacts on the reservoir levels at Mandlazini, Meerensee and eNseleni. As a result industry in Richards Bay has been tasked with reducing

water usage by 25% and water restrictions have been introduced between 22:00 and 04:00 for residents in Meerensee, Mzingazi, Alton, Richards Bay CBD, Veldenvlei, Arboretum, Aquadene, Brackenham, Wildenweide, eNseleni, Mandlazini and Khoza.

However, Mr Gopane warned that if the situation does not improve water users can expect severe restrictions, low water pressure and possible penalties. Residential areas could face water cut-offs between 9am and 4pm if reservoir levels fall below 25% of their capacity.

He appealed to residents to conserve water by not irrigating gardens, washing vehicles with hose pipes, filling or topping up swimming pools and cleaning surfaces using water. He commended the cooperation by industry, as big water users, adding that industry would also consider the water efficiency strategy where rainwater harvesting, storm water containment and the use of clarified water instead of potable water.

Going forward Mr Gopane said the City would need to focus on infrastructure maintenance as well as work more closely with uMhlathuze Water and the Department of Water Affairs.

A new Mhlathuze Water pump station is expected to be completed by May 2015, which will increase the water supply to the City from 40MI/day to 60MI/day. In the interim two new diesel pumps have been installed temporarily and 30MI/day of clarified water has been made available from Mhlathuze Water for industrial usage.

Celebrating our rich heritage



Councillors Babhekile Mthembu, Jabu Mkhabela, Siphwe Khoza, Meera Sookroo, Zethu Gumbi (Deputy Mayor), Beena Simmadhri, Nontokozo Mbanjwa, Purity Mbatha, Khethomusha Mthethwa, Gugulethu Nkosi and Alice Mthembu all wore their finest cultural dress for the Council meeting at the end of September in recognition of Heritage Month and appreciating our rich and varied cultures. Photo courtesy of the Zululand Observer.

City takes steps to minimise service delivery protests

Service delivery protests have become an almost daily occurrence in South Africa but the City of uMhlathuze has been relatively unaffected, with its first and isolated protest reported only prior to the elections earlier this year.

To get a better understanding of service delivery protests, Council has approved that a delegation of officials and councillors visit Tlokwe Local Municipality, which has managed to overcome service delivery protests, and Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality, which is one of the best municipality's in the country.

Tlokwe Municipality is in the North West Province and its main city is Potchefstroom. The City is 145km south-east of OR Tambo International Airport and is thus an accessible city that welcomes business, trade and manufacturing. In the space of two financial years the municipality has moved from adverse reporting to a positive rating by Ratings Afrika. It is performing well and service delivery protests have ended.



In the report that served before the Executive Committee, it stated that the purpose of including Tlokwe Municipality in the visit is to learn from their success story; how to avoid committing the same mistakes and how they managed to turn their situation around.

Ekurhuleni Municipality has developed a lot of innovations to make life easier for its residents, including e-Siyakhokha Services, a free online service which allows residents to view and pay Council tax online using a secure payments system 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This service also provides a full history of accounts from registration and payments made using this system, as well as enables residents to interact with the Municipality to lodge complaints and queries electronically.

The Municipality also has Customer Call Centres located in different areas to bring municipal services closer to the people, a concept that uMhlathuze is trying to adopt and can therefore learn from Ekurhuleni.

In addition the City has appointed a Rapid Response Team on Service Delivery Protests comprising the Municipal Manager, Chief Financial Officer, Deputy Municipal Manager (DMM): Corporate Services, DMM: City Development, DMM: Infrastructure and Technical Services and DMM: Community Services as well as the uMhlathuze Speaker.

The Rapid Response Team attended a workshop hosted by the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) in August. Council is to be informed of the activities of the Rapid Response Team and reports relating to Rapid Response matters are to be submitted to Council when submitting to COGTA.

Sports is the winner at Mayoral and uThungulu Games

The Central Sports Complex at Veldenvlei, Richards Bay was once again abuzz with sporting activity in September for the ninth annual Mayoral Sports Day, which saw teams representing all thirty of the City's wards competing for a place in the uMhlathuze Team to represent the City at the uThungulu Games.

The Mayoral Sports Day was introduced as a fun day for all citizens of the City and to help identify potential sports champions. Several sports people have already achieved provincially as a result of the Mayoral Sports Day, which is a good reflection on the City and the Games.

To prepare for the Games the City's 30 wards were grouped together into six clusters as follows, which were they drawn randomly into Stream A and Stream B, as follows:

Stream A	Stream B
Cluster 2 (Wards 5, 6, 7, 8)	Cluster 4 (Wards 10, 11, 29, 30)
Cluster 1 (Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, 26)	Cluster 3 (Wards 9, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28)
Cluster 5 (Wards 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17)	Cluster 6 (Wards 18, 19, 20, 21, 22)

This year 21 different sport codes were represented at the Mayoral Sports Day. The results were:

Code	Third Place	Second Place	First Place
Table Tennis	-	Cluster 3	Cluster 4
Athletics	Cluster 4	Cluster 1	Cluster 5
Soccer (m)	Cluster 3	Cluster 5	Cluster 4
Soccer (f)	Cluster 5	Cluster 4	Cluster 2
Netball (m)	-	Cluster 6	Cluster 5
Netball (f)	Cluster 2	Cluster 3	Cluster 6
Rugby (m)	Cluster 3	Cluster 4	Cluster 1
Rugby (f)	Cluster 2	Cluster 3	Cluster 4
Volleyball (m)	Cluster 5	Cluster 1	Cluster 4
Volleyball (f)	Cluster 5	Cluster 2	Cluster 1
Basketball (m)	Cluster 2	Cluster 5	Cluster 6
Basketball (f)	-	Cluster 4	Cluster 6
Cricket	Cluster 4	Cluster 1	Cluster 5
Golf	-	-	Cluster 1
Swimming			
Dance Sport	-	Cluster 5	Cluster 3
Karate	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 6
Boxing	Cluster 5	Cluster 3	Cluster 2
Inggathu	Cluster 3	Cluster 1	Cluster 6
Ukhokho	Cluster 1	Cluster 4	Cluster 2
Umlabalaba	Cluster 1	Cluster 4	Cluster 2

Since the Mayoral Sports Day the winning teams have represented the City at the uThungulu Games, where the uMhlathuze won all the sports codes with the exception of indigenous games. Results of the uThungulu Games were:

Code	Results
Football (men)	1. City of uMhlathuze 2. uMlalazi Municipality 3. uMfolozi Municipality
Football (women)	1. City of uMhlathuze 2. uMfolozi Municipality 3. uMlalazi Municipality
Volleyball (men)	1. City of uMhlathuze 2. uMfolozi Municipality 3. Mthonjaneni Municipality
Volleyball (women)	1. City of uMhlathuze 2. uMfolozi Municipality 3. uMlalazi Municipality
Indigenous Games	1. Nkandla Municipality 2. uMfolozi Municipality 3. City of uMhlathuze
Netball (males)	1. City of uMhlathuze 2. uMlalazi Municipality 3. uMfolozi Municipality
Netball (females)	1. City of uMhlathuze 2. uMfolozi Municipality 3. uMlalazi Municipality
Rugby (males)	1. City of uMhlathuze 2. Mthonjaneni Municipality
Dance Sport	1. City of uMhlathuze 2. uMlalazi Municipality 3. uMfolozi Municipality and Nkandla
Athletics	1. City of uMhlathuze 2. Ntambanana Municipality 3. Nkandla Municipality
Basketball (males)	1. City of uMhlathuze 2. uMfolozi Municipality
Basketball (females)	1. City of uMhlathuze 2. uMfolozi Municipality
Cricket	1. City of uMhlathuze 2. uMlalazi Municipality



Ukufakwa Kogesi ENgwelezane A1275 Kuzolandelelwa

UMkhandlu-Dolobha ukwamukele ukuthi kuhlwe isamba esingama R3.6 wezigidi wesabelo-mali sokufakwa kogesi eNgwelezane A1275 okuyingxeny yomhlaba weNgonyama Trust Board, obusetshenziswa ngumphakathi ngaphandle kokuhlinzekwa ngamanzi nangogesi.

Ngokombiko owethulwa eKomidini Eliphezulu loMkhandlu ngo-August, kunezindlu ezingamashumi ayisishagalombili eNgwelezane A1275 kanti lelinani lisengakhula lifike kweziyikhulu namashumi amabili. Nokho ngenxa yokuthi lendawo ayikahleleki ngokomthetho, nanokuthi ezinye zezindlu zakhiwe ezindaweni ezimanzi, ukuthola uxhaso lwezimali eMnyangweni waMandla ukwenza lomsebenzi kuzoba yinselelo ngakho uMasipala kumele afake uxhaso.

Izindleko zokufaka ugesi endlini ngayinye kuthe ukuba ngaphezu kwama R18 000 ikhasimende ngalinye kanti yimali eyingxeny engama R4 812 iDolobha elingakwazi ukuyithola ngokukhokhelwa ukuxhuma ngokwezibalo zezimali zika 2014/2015.

UMkhandlu-Dolobha kumele uthole isinqumo ngobunikazi beNgwelezane A1275 ngoba awukwazi ukudonsa imali yeziza ukuze ukwazi ukuxhasa ukuhlinzekwa kwezidingo-ngqangi ngaphambi kokuba udaba lobunikazi bomhlaba seluxazululekile.

Kuzoba nembizo nabahlali baseNgwelezane A2175 ukuze baziswe ngemigudu okumele ilandelwe uma kufakwa izicelo zokufakelwa ugesi ngaphambi kokuba lomsebenzi uqale.

E: *Council has approved in principle to budget R3,6 million for the electrification of Ngwelezane A1275, which is a portion of land owned by the Ingonyama Trust Board, that has been occupied by the community without services such as water and electricity.*

Council awards contract for more pedestrian bridges in rural areas

Liwa Construction has been awarded a contract to the value of R576 000 to build timber bridges and pedestrian walkways in Ward 24, Matshana just outside Empangeni.

The site handover took place in mid-September and the three-month contract will see the construction of two bridges with walkways.

Trees for life



Councillor Andre De Lange, Councillor Erwin Palmer, Nosipho Mkhwanazi from the Department of Economic Development Tourism and Environmental Affairs and Sipho Sihlangu from the Parks and Recreation section of the City's Community Services Department were joined by community members in celebrating the planting of fruit trees in Dumisani Makhaye Village at the newly completed social development houses in the area.

Residents in the newer social development houses in Dumisani Makhaye Village (formerly uMhlathuze Village) are the beneficiaries of 840 fruit trees to be planted outside their homes as part of the City's Arbor Month initiative.

This initiative is run in partnership with the Environmental Affairs section of the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs which sees mango, avocado pear, orange and litchi trees being planted.

Speaking at the official planting ceremony to mark Arbor Day, Nosipho Mkhwanazi from the Department said that these trees are part of their programme to ensure food security in communities. "The idea is to plant a mixed variety of fruit trees so that when they produce fruit, it can be shared by the immediate neighbours who in turn share different fruit from their trees," she explained.

Councillors Andre de Lange and Erwin Palmer both came out in support of the programme saying that residents should ensure they look after their trees by watering them on a regular basis to encourage them to grow and produce fruit.

Similar projects are being run in the Macekane area where a mix of fruit trees and indigenous trees are being planted.

In addition Sipho Sihlangu from the Parks and Recreation section of the City's Community Services Department said that indigenous trees are to be planted at six schools in the City. They are Bingoma Senior Secondary, Aquadene Senior Secondary, Old Mill High School, Dover High School, Richem High School and Wood and Raw High School.

Deel die Batho Pele Filosofie



Batho Pele committee members welcomed various labour union representatives to a Batho Pele Principles information sharing session hosted at Canefields, outside Empangeni.

uMhlathuze Munisipaliteit se Batho Pele (Sotho-uitdrukking vir "Mense Eerste") komitee het in September 'n inligtingsessie aangebied wat deur vakbondverteenvoordigers van verskeie diensverskaffing-sektore in die munisipaliteit bygewoon was.

Batho Pele is 'n stel beginsels wat regverdige, respektvolle en vriendelike bestuur verseker aan almal wat geraak word deur 'n betrokke diens gelewer.

Elke amptenaar van die munisipaliteit moet die beginsels van Batho Pele ken en daardeur gelei word. Hulle is onder andere:

- Raadpleging
- Diensstandaarde
- Toegang
- Beleefdheid
- nligting
- Openheid en deursigtigheid
- Regstelling en Waarde vir geld.

Die doel van die inligtingsessie aan die vakbondverteenvoordigers was dat hulle dan op hul beurt die beginsels aan al die amptenare deurgee wat vir uMhlathuze Munisipaliteit werk, sodat hulle die beginsels van Batho Pele ter harte kan neem en in elke aspek van hul werk kan toepas en ook om die kliënte in te lig oor hul regte.

E: *The City's Batho Pele committee hosted an information sharing session in September with representatives of the various labour union representatives from across the City's front-line service providing sectors.*

911 Fund visits the City to engage with emergency responders



The uMhlathuze Fire Station in Richards Bay played host in September to a remarkable team of volunteers from the United States, representing the 911 Fund, who visited the province at the request of the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) to share their expertise in the field of disaster management with KwaZulu-Natal municipalities.

Training included firefighter 1 and 2, wild land firefighting, first aid and incident command. Sessions were held over nine days and included 42 personnel from municipalities representing northern Zululand, uThungulu and uMkhanyakude municipalities. Similar workshops were also convened in Newcastle and on the South Coast at the Ugu District Municipality.

Apart from passing on skills and training, the 911 Fund has also shipped a container of fire fighting and first aid equipment to COGTA to distribute to the various municipalities.

One of the 911 Fund representatives and Secretary of the 911 Board, Ayal Lindeman, explained that the 911 Fund was founded by the late Dr Stephan Hittman, the Fire Commissioner at the New York City Fire Department (NYCFD) when the World Trade Centre buildings were attacked by terrorists on 11 September 2001.

"343 New York City firefighters died in the course of duty during the 9/11 attack, excluding other volunteers. We realised the importance of enhancing our emergency management and preparedness systems, and to share our skills and lessons learnt with our friends and allies over the world to improve their chances of returning home safely after a shift," he said.

"We are all volunteers and the training and equipment that the 911 Fund provides is given free of charge as part of our continuing effort to build preparedness, reduce risk, enhance civilian safety and minimise property loss from fire and other types of disasters."

He reported that those who attended the course responded well to the training and learnt a lot. "The disaster practitioners and disaster managers were taught to have a person disaster plan in place; to be able to think outside the box and how to use the box to make a splint. During a disaster you might be cut off from the rest of the world for several days and you need to know how to make clean water and improvise to survive."

Funding received to refurbish waste water treatment plants

Council has accepted, with gratitude, grant funding in the amount of R14 million received from the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) for the refurbishment of the eSikhaleni Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW); eSikhaleni Water Treatment Works (WTW) Ngwelezane Water Treatment Works (WTW). These plants were transferred to the City by DWA along with the Vulindlela, eNseleni and Ngwelezane Waste Water Treatment Works.

The refurbishment of the eSikhaleni WWTW and eSikhaleni and Ngwelezane WTW will be implemented over a year from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 with the objectives of:

- Improving the condition and status of the existing waste water treatment works
- Ensuring compliance of the waste water treatment works with respect to legislation as set out in the Water Act of 1998
- Ensuring the waste water treatment works can achieve Green Drop compliance
- Assisting to ensure that the water treatment works can achieve Blue Drop compliance.

An amount of R3,1 million will be spent on the Ngwelezane WTW, which is a Class C facility that serves over 7 700 households in Wards 27, 28 and 29. The raw water source is the uMhlathuze River. The business plan approved by Council provides for the sealing of clarifiers, replacement of water pumps, sand traps, filter media and water pipes.

The eSikhaleni WTW is a Class A facility that serves eSikhaleni, Vulindlela, KwaDube, KwaMkhwanazi, Felixton Village and uThungulu District Municipality. Lake Cubhu is the raw water source and the 37 000 households are served from this WTW. An amount of R5,9 million is to be spent on the installation of a new raw water pump and refurbishment of telemetry.

A further R4,9 million will be spent of the eSikhaleni WWTW, which serves eSikhaleni, to empty and clean the clarifier, aerators, drying beds, RAS pumps, Supernatant pumps and fencing.

Vaccination campaign protects City's children

The City of uMhlathuze's Clinic Services has partnered with the Provincial Department of Health and Link Pharmacy in rolling out the Expanded Programme on Immunisation across the City as part of the Department's campaign to ensure that no woman or child in the province shall die from preventable causes.

The campaign ran in August and September 2014 and aimed to identify and immunize children who had defaulted according to the immunization schedule. During this time 3 17 children between 0 years and 12 years from 76 primary and pre-primary schools in the Richards Bay and Empangeni areas were vaccinated.

Meanwhile Clinic Services has finalised the HPV campaign that was started in March for girls older than 9 years in Grade 4. On completion about 252 girls from eight schools had taken part in the campaign.

uMhlathuze Clinic Services thanks the Municipality for providing transport, Taffy Kriel and Link Pharmacy for making available Sister Hanna Bester to assist every year with the campaigns as well as to Mr SSA Mkhize, a Senior Community Health Nurse, who always runs the campaigns with passion and good care.

Vaccinations are important for children in order to prevent them from certain infectious diseases including: Tuberculosis, Polio, Rotavirus Gastroenteritis, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Haemophilus Influenzae type B, Hepatitis B, Pneumococcal infection and measles. It is an ongoing exercise and all parents should ensure children have had all vaccinations according to the Government Protocol.

As a result of medical research vaccinations are getting safer and more effective all the time. Local clinics and community health centres all provide free vaccinations to children because vaccinating all children will prevent the spread of disease within communities.

Vaccinations are given at birth, six weeks, ten weeks, 14 weeks, nine months, 18 months, six years and 12 years. A child may experience a slight fever and swelling on the injection site for a day. If these symptoms worsen or last longer than two days you should take your child back to the clinic. Likewise if your child develops any serious illness, take the child back to the clinic.



Those who made the campaign possible were (from left): Sister Hanna Bester (Link Pharmacy), Ladypeace Banda, Sister Elsa Davis (Chief Community Health Nurse, City of uMhlathuze), Nokthula Ntsingila (Administration Assistant), Nonhlanhla Gumbi and (front): Mr SSA Mkhize (Senior Community Health Nurse, KZN Department of Health).



Zama Mpungose and Zama Ndelela managed the campaign at the Empangeni Clinic.

Richards Bay Clean Air Association Monthly Report: August 2014

SO₂ (Sulphur Dioxide) Guideline Exceedances

There were no measured exceedances of the NEMAQA daily average standard (48ppb), NEMAQA hourly average standard (134ppb) or NEMAQA 10 minute average standard (191ppb) during August 2014.

TRS Odour Threshold Exceedances

TRS is emitted by Mondi and is monitored by the RBCAA at the Richards Bay Central Sports Complex in Richards Bay and in eSikhaleni at Tisand Technical High School.

There were Five (5) measured exceedances of the RBCAA 10-minute Target (4.5ppb). The exceedances were recorded at the RBCAA's CBD station on the 15th and 25th at 8:00am and 01:30, and at the eSikhaleni station on the 26th from 2:20 – 3:00 am

PM₁₀ Exceedances

There was One (1) measured exceedances of the current NEMAQA Daily Standard (120 g/m³).

There were Three (3) measured exceedance of the future NEMAQA Daily Standard (75 g/m³). The exceedances were recorded at eSikhaleni and Brackenham, and were attributed to veld fires and very high wind speeds

Air Quality Complaints

There were Twenty One (21) air quality complaints received during August 2014.

For more information contact:

Sandy Camminga (Public Officer)

Tel: 035 -786 0076 Cell: 083 515 2384

Complaints can be logged at: complaints@rbcaa.co.za

Website: www.rbcaa.org.za

Ukusebenza Ngokubambisana Ukuze Kubengcono Ukuhlinzekwa Kwemisebenzi

Ukuze kwakhiwe phezu kobudlelwano obuhle phakathi kuMasipala waseMhlathuze kanye nabaHoli beNdabuko bendawo, amakhosi nezinduna zemiKhandlu yeNdabuko engaphansi kwemingcele yoMasipala waseMhlathuze bamenyelwa esidlweni esasiseProtea Hotel Waterfront ukuze kuzokwabelwana ngolwazi.

Enkulumweni yakhe, uMeya uKhansela u-Elphas Mbatha wagcizelela ukubaluleka kokuxhumana phakathi kwawowonke amakhosi namakhansela amaWodi wawo ukuqiniseka ukuthi amaKhansela ayazi ngezidingongqangi ezidingeka kuleyo naleyondawo.

Wathi, "Kuwulwazi oluphuma emiphakathini ngokwemihlangano yoHlelo lokuThuthukiswa kweNgqalasizinda ebanjwa nayo leyomiphakathi kanye nokuxhumana nemiKhandlu yamaKhosi eyenza uMasipala akwazi ukubhekelela nokubona ukuthi yikuphi okuseqhulweni ukuze kubhekwe lezodingo kwisabelomali. Kubalulekile ukuba thina, njengoMasipala siqiniseke ukuthi siletha ukuhlinzekwa kwemisebenzi emiphakathini yethu ngendlela esimeme."

Echaza ngohlaka lwezomthetho ukuthi omasipala nemikhandlu yamakhosi kumele isebenze ngokubambisana kanjani ukuze kuqinisekwe ukuthi amalungu omphakathi athola ukuhlinzekwa ngemisebenza edingekile, uZinhle Dlamini woMnyango wokuBusa ngokuBambisana neziNdaba zeNdabuko wathi kumele kube nokuhloniphana phakathi kwemiKhandlu yamaKhosi noMkhandlu kamasipala njengoba kumele isebenze ndawonye iphathane ngokwethembana.

Ukuze kube nobumbano imiKhandlu yamaKhosi namaKhansela amaWodi kanye namaKomidi ayo kumele baxhumane njalo ukuze kudingidwe ngokuhlinzekwa kwemisebenzi ezindaweni zabo.

AmaPhini eziMeneja zikaMasipala avela eMinyangweni eyahlukene kuMasipala enza izethulo zemisebenzi yeMinyango yazo. Yilelo naleloPhini lazwakalisa ukuzinikela koMnyango walo ekuletheni imiphakathi imisebenzi ngendlela efanele. Nokho kwabuye

kwagcizelelwa ukuthi imiphakathi yezindawo zasemakhaya kumele ikhokhele imisebenzi ehlinzekwa ngayo ukuze phela kuqhutshekwe ngokuhlinzeka lemisebenzi.

E: *To further build on the good relationship established between the uMhlathuze Municipality and local Traditional Leaders, the Amakhosi and Isinduna of the Traditional Councils that fall within the boundaries of the uMhlathuze Municipality were hosted at an information sharing brunch at the Protea Hotel Waterfront recently.*



IMeya uKhansela u-Elphas Mbatha wagcizelela ukubaluleka kokusebenzisana phakathi kwemiKhandlu yamaKhosi nokaMasipala ukuqiniseka ukuthi uMasipala uyaqhubeka nokuhlinzeka imisebenzi ngendlela efanele.



UZinhle Dlamini owayemele uMnyango wokuBusa ngokuBambisana neziNdaba zeNdabuko wachaza ngokubaluleka kokuhloniphana phakathi kwemiKhandlu yamaKhosi naleyo yoMasipala kanye nabameleli bayo.



Abameleli abavela eMikhandlwini yaMakhosi eminingi engaphasi kweDolobhakazi bathamela imbizo yokwabelana ngolwazi lapho uMasipala ayechaza ngokuhlinzekwa kwemisebenzi ukuze iqhubeke ithole lemisebenzi.

Abe "Africa Ignites" Bajabulisa Izingane Emtapolwazi WaseSikhaleni

Kuthe ngoSeptember abe "Africa Ignites" okuwuhlelo loMnyango wezobuCiko namaSiko KwaZulu-Natal olwenzelwa ukuba intsha yabelana ngezindaba zakudala ukukhuthaza uthando lwezincwadi, ukufunda, nokuxoxa izindaba bemukelwa ngesasasa ngenkathi bevakashele uMtapolwazi waseSikhaleni.

Amaqembu ezingane ezaziqhamuka ezikoleni zendawo eziyisishagalombili abamba iqhaza ohlelweni lwasekuseni olwaseluhleliwe kanti amaqembu amaningi afika ngezikhathi zantambama ezogatshuliswa yithimba loMnyango. Ngaphandle kokuzixoxela izindaba, lelithimba lalibuye lidlale imidlalo nazo izingane libuye licule amaculo.

E: 'Africa Ignites', a programme by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Arts and Culture to share indigenous stories with the youth and develop a love of books, reading and storytelling, was well received when it visited the eSikhaleni Library in September.



(kusukela kwesobunxele) uZinhle Buthelezi woMtapolwazi waseSikhaleni (owesibili kusuka kwesokudla) enoMxolisi Nxumalo, uLwazi Twala, Ntuthuko Ngobese noSthembile Zikhali abasuka eMnyangweni wezobuCiko naMasiko, okuyibona ababebajulisa izingane ngokuzixoxela izindaba babuye badlale nazo.



Important Municipal Telephone Numbers

In case of uncertainty, the main switchboard in Richards Bay can be reached by dialling 035-9075000

- **Building Inspectorate**
Office hours: 035 907 5434/5409/5410
- **Housing**
Office hours: 035 907 5486/5057
- **Tourism**
Office hours: 035 907 5018
Empangeni: 035 907 5630
- **Waste Management**
Office hours (Emp): 035 907 5670
Office hours (R/Bay): 035 907 5789/5790
- **Traffic**
R/Bay Motor Licencing 035 907 5268/5461
Emp Motor Licencing 035 907 5650/5652
Drivers Licences 035 787 1464
Traffic Section 035 907 5633
Control Room 035 907 5760/1
Learners Licences 035 907 5030
- **Fire**
Office hours 035 907 5722/3
After 035 797 3314/5
Emergency 035 797 3313/3911
- **Property Section**
Enquiries 035 907 5038/5073
- **Hall Bookings**
Empangeni 035 907 5620
Ngwelezane 035 907 5832
Richards Bay 035 907 5048
Esikhaleni 035 907 5825
Sport fields 035 907 5352/5941
- **Water Leaks & Sewer Leaks**
Roads & Storm Water
24-hour toll free 0800 222 827
Switchboard 035 907 5000
- **Refuse Removal**
Empangeni 035 907 5670/5679
Richards Bay 035 907 5790/5769
- **Power Failures**
24-hour toll free 0800 222 827
Switchboard 035 907 5000
- **Streetlight Complaints**
24-hour toll free 0800 222 827
Switchboard 035 907 5000
- **Treasury**
Account enquiries 035 907 5497/5128/
5132/5131/5286/5960/5142
SCM enquiries 035 907 5770
Supplier's database registration 035 907 5773

uMhlathuze News - Also on: www.umhlathuze.gov.za

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Dial 0800 222 827 for the City's 24-hour Call Centre