



# EDITORIAL COMMENT



Editor Ms Thando Sonjica

Heritage Month is celebrated annually from 1 to 30 September. It recognises aspects of South African culture which are both tangible and intangible: creative expression such as music and performances, our historical inheritance, language, the food we eat as well as the popular memory.

This year Heritage Month was celebrated under the theme: "Human

Treasures by Asserting our African Identity". The aim of this year's celebrations was to put at the forefront the Living Human Treasures, the custodians of the cultural heritage and indigenous knowledge for their immense contribution to the arts, culture and heritage landscape.

As part of participating in the nation-wide ongoing Heritage events, the department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) held successful events throughout the Province to celebrate our rich culture and Heritage. CoGTA provided a unique platform to various stakeholders who by the end of the events had learnt more about their culture, traditions and the importance of preserving the indigenous knowledge.

One important event on the celebrations of our heritage was the newly refurbished grave of Chief Tyali of ImiNgcangathelo chiefdom. The Heritage restoration project was undertaken by the National Arts and

Culture Department, Eastern Cape department of COGTA, as well as Eastern Cape House of Traditional Leaders in partnership with the University of Fort Hare, AmaRharhabe Kingdom and the Tyali Royal Family. Read more about this project on page 3 and other heritage celebrations throughout the newsletter.

Another important process in this quarter for the department of Cogta was the holding of successful and peaceful Local Government Elections in the Province. Subsequently the elections were followed by the Induction Programme of newly elected councillors. The launch event was held in East London and the details of the event can be found on page 5.

I urge the reader to take time and read about other programmes that the department undertook during this quarter.

Happy reading.

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# EC GOVERNMENT REMEMBERS CHIEF TYALI

Chief Tyali's name according to Eastern Cape Premier, Phumulo Masualle evoke the heroic deeds of the Kings, Queens and Chiefs who fought hard to safeguard the land of their people. "Traditional leaders played an instrumental role in developing communities and resisting the taking over of their land," he said.

Premier Masualle said this during the Heritage Month which the Eastern Cape Provincial Government used to bring to the minds and hearts of people, the names of Chief Tyali of the ImiNgcangathelo chiefdom, people whose names are synonymous with the fight against colonial suppression and injustice.

The newly refurbished grave of Chief Tyali was unveiled at Woburn Great Place in Alice. His recognition also forms part of the Fort Hare centenary celebrations. Chief Tyali will always be remembered for his pioneering spirit as he spearheaded, working closely with the Rharhabe Kingdom, the donation of a huge piece of land for the development of Fort Hare University and Love Dale College – of which the former has become a significant centre of educational and cultural excellence and alma mater of various icons of the liberation struggle on the African continent.

The heritage restoration project was undertaken by the National Arts and Culture Department, Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs department, as well as Eastern Cape House of Traditional Leaders in partnership with the University of Fort Hare, AmaRharhabe Kingdom and the Tyali Royal Family.

Spokesperson for the Tyali family, Prince Banzi Tyali, expressed the family's gratitude for what Government has done in honoring their great grandfather. He further urged that stories such as that of Chief Tyali should be documented and preserved for future generations. "We appeal to government to document such rich history of AmaXhosa, which will in turn restore the pride of where we come from – for future generations to come," said Prince Tyali.

As part of honouring Chief Tyali, the Department of Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture launched the Chief Tyali Marathon. MEC Pemmy Majodina announced government's support for the funding of the Marathon from 2017, saying it will form part of the heritage month calendar of the province. "The aim is to ensure that Chief Tyali's name is carried over by younger generations," emphasized the MEC.



King Dalimvula Matanzima, Queen Noloyiso Sandile and Chief Ngangomhlaba Matanzima



MEC Xasa, MEC Pemmy Majodina and Queen Noloyiso at the unveiling of Chief Tyali's tombstone.

# TRADITIONAL LEADERS TO PROMOTE PEACE IN COMMUNITIES

By Bongwiwe Kadeni

From the 29 August to 2 September 2016, the Eastern Cape House of Traditional Leaders held a sitting where MECs from various departments came and presented their Policy Speeches, tabled what support each department would give in ensuring that needs of the communities are met.

On the first day of the sitting MEC for the department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs(Cogta) Fikile Xasa presenting Cogta's Policy Speech firstly thanked the Traditional leaders for their participation on the Local Government Elections.

He highlighted that the Department of Cogta had managed to build more than six Traditional Councils and had supported 140 Traditional Institutions. "We need to continue to support our traditional leaders as the custodians of culture and customs who also play a vital role in the society" added MEC Xasa.

He further explained that the department of Cogta managed to give support on the installation of Prince, Chiefs and Xhosa King. He said the department was committed to give necessary capacity building to traditional leaders so they can be more equipped and keep up with the times. "For instance

the department conducted a workshop for traditional leaders that was held at Mngqesha Great Place. The Department is willing to train traditional leaders on what they need to be trained on, said MEC. He explained that Members of the House of Traditional Leaders are given necessary resources like laptops, cell phones and cars to enable them to perform their duties," said MEC.

MEC suggested that there was a need to facilitate a session between Cogta management and the members of the HOTL besides the scheduled sittings.

MEC Xasa highlighted the importance of how the traditional leaders should conduct themselves in their different communities. He said they needed to lead by example especially to the youth of today. He said times change, therefore there are things that needed to be changed to suit the times of today.

He urged traditional leaders to promote peace and unity among the community.



Chief FR Makula



Cogta MEC Fikile Xasa and MEC Weziwe Tikana for Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison



From left: Prince Bulelani Tyhali and Nkosi Mnoneleli Ranuga

# MASUALLE ADVISES COUNCILLORS AGAINST CORRUPTION

By Dumisani Lindi

In his key note address during the launch of the Integrated Councillor Induction Programme (ICIP) in East London recently, the Premier of the Eastern Cape Phumullo Masualle urged Councillors to be vigilant and remain focused on serving communities.

“You need to be strong and not be easily swayed or corrupted. People will expect favours but remember you here to serve all members of your communities (irrespective of political affiliation). There must be less talk and more doing in serving our communities better,” said the Premier. We need to stop failing our people by working in silos. Let us work together to create better communities,” he said.

The ICIP is organised by the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) in partnership with the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) and the Local Government Skills Education Training Authorities (LGSETA). The programme runs from September until the beginning October 2016.

Prince Zolile Burns Ncamashe, the deputy Chairperson of the Eastern Cape House of Traditional Leaders (HOTL) advised the newly elected Councillors to empower themselves with education to have something to fall back on when their term comes to an end.

Burns-Ncamashe urged the Councillors to improve the lives of the people who elected them. “Remember you were elected to be servants so be one to your community, be available and ensure that the needs of your communities are met.”

He said Councillors need to “instill” in their minds that the positions they are in are not permanent. “You need to do what you were elected for and whilst doing that empower yourselves with education so that when the end of the term comes, you do not cling to power as you will have something to fall back on,” added Burns-Ncamashe.

Speaking at the same event Cllr Nomakhosazana Meth, who is the Provincial Chairperson of SALGA said the mandate of local government was to promote safe and

healthy environment, service delivery and maximise social development amongst other things.

“Having capable and strong minded Councillors will assist in realising this mandate and ensure that communities are served,” said Cllr Meth.

She added that SALGA saw it fit to assist Councillors with skills to execute the local government mandate. “This programme will ensure that Councillors are ready to face the challenges of service delivery that lie ahead of them.

Presenting the Back to Basics (B2B) Programme, Cogta MEC Fikile Xasa said each Councillor will have to abide by the B2B programme. “The five pillars of B2B programme will have to be like a bible, you need to know it by heart and understand what it means,” he said. He added that after the local government elections there is need for us to go and talk to the people, engage with them and understand their needs.

He further commended SALGA for organising the ICIP. “Empowering Councillors is key to good governance because Councillors should be the mouth piece of the people to voice their concerns to the municipality as well as giving them feedback,” said MEC Xasa.

MEC Xasa further emphasised that delivering service was the core mandate of every municipality. “We are about delivering services so let us do that and ensure there are basic services like water, electricity and sanitation” said MEC Xasa.

MEC Xasa pleaded with the municipalities to manage public funds with care.

“We are perceived as being bad in managing public re-sources hence we have de-cided from now on that only competent people will be employed in strategic posi-tion,” he said.

He advised Councillors that as much as they are new in their positions, government was continuing and they needed to hit the ground running.



Premier of the Eastern Cape Province, Phumulo Masualle



Mayor of O.R Tambo District Municipality, Councillor Nomakhosazana Meth



Deputy Chairperson of the House of Traditional Leaders, Prince Burns Ncamashe

# WOMEN SMS HOLD A SESSION TO DISCUSS HOD'S 8 POINT PLAN PRINCIPLE

By Siviwe Adoni

The acting Head of Department (HOD) of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta), Ms Ngaka Mosehana gathered female members of the senior management services (sms) of Cogta at the East London IDZ to reflect upon the progress made in implementing the HOD's 8 point principle plan. This plan of action focuses amongst others on issues of promoting women's empowerment and gender equality within the public service workplace.

Highlighting the purpose of the session, the Acting General Manager of Corporate Services at Cogta, Ms Sindiswa Nyaba told the female sms members that the session was an opportunity to come up with strategies that would motivate all women in the department. She said women in the lower levels needed to feel motivated enough to see themselves in upper levels. "This means that we must identify the gaps and issues faced by women in the department and also identify where we fell short. You all welcome to give input where needed as the platform is for us all to engage and feel free," said Ms Nyaba. She said during the session the sms members will need to focus on issues around the employment equity and 8 point plan principle.

Addressing members of sms, Acting HOD said the session provided an opportunity for them to look at how they could change the environment within the department and how they would go about improving women status in the department. "We are given the task as female sms to turnaround the environment to be conducive for other female employees. We therefore need to develop plans or rather strategies to motivate women in the workplace" HoD continued.

She further advised the female sms about the importance of a vision board and that they must consider drawing up one. She said the vision board entails writing down ones vision together with the time frame and most importantly how

one would go about achieving those goals. "This assists in creating your own personal development plan which is essential for personal growth," said Ms Ngaka.

Presenting also at the session Employment Equity issues was Mr Norman Botha, manager from Human Resource Organisational Transformation and Planning Directorate. Mr Botha highlighted employment equity plan and the importance of its implementation when a vacant post was advertised.

However his core focus was on the department's status quo around the gender transformation in the workplace. He continued to list the principles in the 8 point plan and briefly explained issues around each principle.

Mr Botha said principles were ; transformation for non-sexism, establishing policy environment, meeting equity targets, creating enabling environment, gender mainstreaming, empowerment, providing adequate resources and accountability, monitoring and evaluation. Mr Botha said the 8 point plan looked at ensuring that there was gender equality when employing staff in a workplace especially in the senior management position to ensure equal opportunities are provided to both men and women for skills development but give preference to women.

"It also looks at ensuring that employees are aware about the workplace policies and procedures. Lastly it emphasises the importance of empowering employees especially women by providing mentorship, awarding bursaries, prioritising women and disabled persons to participate in management developing programme," he explained

In his closure Mr Botha said accountability meant that one was prepared to accept responsibility, embrace commitment and achieve solutions." We must aim and not blame", he said.



From left : Senior Manager Rural Development Facilitation: Ms Ntombekhaya Somfongo, General Manager Traditional Governance and Support Ms Thembeka Ncume and a Manager PMDS, Ms Nompumezo Mzileni



Acting General Manager: Corporate Services, Ms Sindiswa Nyaba



Manager for Human Resource Organisational Transformation and Planning; Mr Norman Botha

# WAR ROOMS CREATED TO SERVICE COMMUNITIES, MEC XASA

By Dumisani Lindi

Opening one of the War rooms in Venterstad in Walter Sisulu Municipality, MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs(Cogta), Fikile Xasa said War Rooms are set to change the way the province work together with partners to serve the communities they reside on. The opening ceremony was part of the Public Service Month which was launched in Joe Gqabi District Municipality on the 6th of September 2016.

MEC Xasa said War Rooms are part of Masiphathisane the programme which was launched by Premier Phumulo Masualle in Mbizana earlier in the year. "As the department we are here to ensure that these war rooms are up and running as they will assist in servicing the community" said MEC Xasa.

He further explained to the community members how the War Rooms would be working. "The War Rooms will be occupied by the Community Development Worker(CDW), Ward Councillor, leadership structures from the community. Communities need to get involved and take responsibility because when we say "Amandla ngawethu" we say the power is ours so let us use it and not leave the responsibility to ward councillors and CDW," said MEC.

The MEC said War Rooms were made to assist communities, and they (communities) need to embrace them because Masiphathisane means lets work together. "So let's work together to ensure our communities are served" said MEC.

He said he has heard the members of the community that they were concerned about creation of job opportunities and projects which would assist in empowering the people. "We will ensure that projects that help the community like the bakery and others are established again for the good of the community" said MEC.

MEC also emphasised that the war rooms were made to service the community where they are. "We need not make life difficult by dragging processes by taking small issues to head offices whilst they can be dealt with here. This is what these war rooms are made for, effective and efficient service to the people. "So I hope you will use the war rooms to sought the problems related to services in this municipality," said MEC.

Mr Sipho Memela who is the member of the community thanked the MEC for initiative to bring services closer to the people which would be custom made for their municipality. "We thank the Premier and the MEC for this and we promise we will work together with the CDW and Ward Councillor to make this work" said Mr Memela.

Earlier on before going to launch the War Room, the MEC handed over a flood light to the community of Ward1. "We know this place is notorious for crime especially at night so this light will assist in lighting up the community and making the residence feel safe, " said MEC whilst cutting the ribbon.



MEC Xasa handing over a flood light to the community



MEC Xasa addressing the community



Community of Venterstad and Government Officials

# EFFECTIVE USE OF ALL MEDIA SHOULD BE EXPLOITED

By Nowethu Goniwe

“Effective use of all media tools be exploited more. This will assist us to share our messages with our audiences” . This was a message from Mr Legadimo Leso, the General Manager Communication from the National Department of Cogta.

This he said during a two day meeting of Local Government Communicators held at Aliwal North in the Joe Gqabi District Municipality in September. The meeting was organised by the Directorate of Communication in conjunction with the Eastern Cape Department of Government Communication and Information System(GCIS).

Mr Leso said he needed to highlight the fact that social and real time messages direct the narratives “and as such communicators must own this space in their respective municipal areas”. He said commitment to implementation of B2B was very important and that Integrated Development Planning (IDP) was key and that communicators needed to be guided by it.

He further said it was important to raise awareness on local government programmes such as “Know Your Councillor Campaign and that ward committee meetings were an important platform to engage with communities.

Highlighting the purpose of the meeting Mr Ndlelantle Pinyana, the GCIS Provincial Director said that local government communicators were meeting for the first time after the Local Government elections to reflect back on where the forum started . He gave an overview of the issues that led to the establishment of the forum in 2011, saying that currently there were few municipalities that did not have communication personnel in the Eastern Cape.

He advised on the steps to that should be taken by Communicators such as the introduction of new faces of council to communities, 5 year strategy workshops, basic media training for new leadership and approval and implementation of the Communications annual action plans.

In the same meeting , Ms Tshegofatso Modubu, the senior manager from the Department of Planning , Monitoring and Evaluation presented a communication strategy for the National Development Plan(NDP). She urged the communicators to make brand awareness campaigns, talk about the achievements as from the year 2014-2016, intervention plans, host NDP 2030 events and also utilize the NDP 2030 logo in all correspondences and campaigns.

Chief Executive Officer of GovChat, Mr Eldrid Jordaan shared with the attendees the programme which he said was a the tool to track resolutions to complaints. He said the tool was monitored by GCIS, COGTA and Presidency and urged Communicators to start downloading and use the tool.

Opportunity was also given to District Heads of Communication to present , progress, challenges, initiatives and areas needing interventions in their respective municipalities.

Mr Mamnkeli Ngam, the Senior Manager for Corporate Communication at Cogta made a plea to communicators for their support in intensifying awareness campaigns on traditional initiation. “Bring the issue to the to the agenda of the new leadership and include initiation programme in your plans. Let us work together to ensure safe passage of our initiates to manhood”, said Mr Ngam.



From left: Communicators from municipalities: Ms Anathi Nyokana , Ms Vuyani Sibene, Mr Lubabalo Majenge and Mr Mxolisi Spondo-( Senior Manager at the Office of the Premier)



Mr Mandla Gceya- Head of Communication Joe Gqabi District Municipality



From left; Mr Ndlelantle Pinyana and Mr Eldrid Jordaan



Mr Legadimo Leso: General Manager Communication at National Department of Cogta, Ms Tshegofatso Modubu: Senior Manager Communication , Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

# BRINGING SERVICES SUCH AS WATER AND SANITATION NOT A FAVOUR BUT A RIGHT, VILLAGERS TOLD.

By Dumisani Lindi

During a visit to Mngcibe village in Ngqeleni under the Nyandeni local municipality, MEC for the department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs(Cogta), Fikile Xasa told villagers that bringing services such as water and sanitation was not a favour but it was their right as citizens of South Africa.

The visit was prompted by the villagers recent boycotting of registration of Local Government Elections due to a number of complaints related to delivery of services. The MEC was also there to introduce the War room and the Masiphathisane programme launched by the Provincial Government earlier in the year. "We are here to introduce the programme called Masiphathisane which seeks to improve the lives of our communities through the establishment of a War room. We are also here to listen to the challenges that you are facing and try to fast track them through the War Room concept," said MEC Xasa

MEC Xasa said they were aware that in Mngcibe village there was a problem with water, sanitation and electricity. He said those were basic services that were needed to make life easy. "We are here with the municipality's officials and councillors to listen and come up with quick solution to this problem", said Mec. He further told them that South Africa belongs to all of those who live in it and it was the mandate of government to make sure that basic services are delivered which include water and sanitation. "We need to understand that water is life and sanitation is dignity" said MEC.

He told the gathering that earlier on he visited some families and realised that their condition of living was not up to standard. "I promise all the poor conditions of living that we witnessed today will be taken to relevant departments to take care of them" said the MEC. He emphasised that as the government the aim was to create a prosperous South Africa for time generations to come. "We need to create a South



Community of Mngcibe engaging the MEC

Africa where children are all educated, where every household has electricity, water and proper sanitation infrastructure. It was Madiba's dream to create better living conditions for all, so let us not disappoint him by letting the country down" said MEC Xasa.

MEC told the villagers that they were aware that Mngcibe community was amongst those places who promised not to vote. "I have to tell you as the MEC that your vote is your voice, you won't be heard if you don't vote so we plead with you to go and vote when the time comes.

MEC told the villagers that from that day there will be people who will be in the village every day of the week to listen to the problems of the community in the war room and those people would be the ward committee and the local Community Development Worker(CDW)," added the MEC.

The floor was given to the community to voice their concerns amongst those were water and Ssanitation, electricity and unemployment. The MEC promised that the issues will be taken care of and urged the community to use the war room created specifically to cater for their needs in order to improve the lives of the Mngcibe community.

## MEC PARTICIPATES TO STOP CRIME AND DRUG ABUSE IN COFFEE BAY

By Siphiwo Stemele

The high level of crime and substance abuse in Ward 24 of Coffee Bay prompted MEC Fikile Xasa to schedule time from his busy schedule to go and speak to residents of Coffee Bay on 20 July 2016 to stay away from crime and drug abuse.

"Everyone that has talked here has made this day easy (referring to Chief Ngwenyathi's welcoming address and Chief Zwelithole's purpose of the day that both highlighted their unhappiness with the high level of drug abuse in their community). It is not easy to build a country that was destroyed deliberately for 300 years by the apartheid government. July is Mandela month in our country. We have a programme to remind people of where we come from; it's called Back to Basics, it's meant to build the country. We will not finish Madiba's programme if we do not give people water, sanitation, roads and houses", said MEC in his opening address.

He also said that the government has launched the Masiphathisane programme. In the War Room it's where the government is reporting to the people about the delivery of services.

"Traditional leaders should play a meaningful role in the development of their subjects. As the government, we are not going to rest until we have rooted out crime and drug

abuse in our communities. As leaders we need to teach our people to trust South African Police Service. As law abiding citizens, we must work together with SAPS. As government we need to protect people who secretly give police valuable information that lead to arrest of criminals, through witness protection programme", MEC continued.

He also said that our Kingdoms should lead development, fight against abuse of drugs, women and children. He added that the fight against crime and drug abuse does not mean people should take law into their own hands.

"It is the responsibility of my department to oversee elections, to ensure that they are free and fair. Electrification of Ngcwanguba Villages will continue whether you are going to vote or not. 86% of the country has been electrified by the current government. We can acknowledge that the processes are very slow in covering the remaining 14% however a some of R200 million has been put aside for interventions", said MEC.

In his closing remarks MEC proposed that as province we should have our own Traditional Dance Festival which could be bigger than the Grahamstown Arts Festival. He said this after seeing inmates from correctional services dancing to entertain the community.

# CWP IS MEANT TO EMPOWER UNEMPLOYED CITIZENS

By Dumisani Lindi

At the launch of a Community Work Programme (CWP), the MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta), Fikile Xasa told the communities that CWP was meant to empower poor and unemployed citizens. The launch which formed part of the Mandela month activities, was held at Kroonvale near Graaf Reinet in the Camdeboo Municipality on the 26th of July 2016.

MEC Xasa said CWP is designed as an employment safety net, not an employment solution for participants. "The purpose is to supplement people's existing livelihood strategies by offering a basic level of income security through work. It is an ongoing programme that does not replace government's existing social grants programme but complements it," said MEC Xasa.

Camdeboo CWP site was established in 2012 and it was implemented in 3 three areas namely Aberdeen, Nieu-Bethesda and Graff Reinet. The criteria used to select workers focused on poor communities, disabled individuals, women who are heading up homes with no means of income and orphans who have no one to look after them.

MEC Xasa said the CWP programme is meant to empower disadvantaged members of our communities. "CWP is the programme meant to educate and give skills to our communities which by no choice of theirs had no opportunities to empower themselves" added MEC Xasa.

MEC urged the community to take pride in what they do, "Am glad to see that the community of Camdeboo Local

Municipality are taking this programme seriously and this means that they are embracing the idea that Nelson Mandela fought for. Seeing this commitment means that the community will be in good hands and seeing this makes me feel proud to have this programme under my department" added MEC Xasa.

Speaking at the same event of the CWP, the Mayor of Camdeboo Councillor Hannah thanked the department of Cogta for the programme and for bringing dignity to their communities. "Even though the money is not much and it is not permanent this programme is meant to empower people with skills that they will use in the future to generate income" said the Mayor. The mayor urged the CWP workers not to feel intimidated when they talk about their work, "Never be ashamed of the work that you do, doing what you do brings dignity to families.



CWP Workers of Kroonvale

# ABATHEMBU TRADITIONAL COUNCIL CELEBRATE HERITAGE

By Bongive Kadeni

The AbaThembu Royal Traditional Council in partnership with Enoch Mgijimi Local Municipality and, Chris Hani Municipality hosted a Heritage celebration at Bold Point Great Place, Whittlesea in September 2016.

The Mayor of Enoch Mgijimi Municipality Lindiwe Gunuza-Nkwentsha welcoming the guests at the event said the heritage reminded people of their culture and customs and also shows them their roots as South Africans. "We should embrace our culture as the legacy that our great grandfathers left us with. Celebrating the Heritage means we treasure our human identity and appreciate our culture and customs" said the Mayor of Ms Gunuza -Nkwentsha.

Mayor Gunuza-Nkwentsha also emphasised on taking good care of the land and livestock because she said "that's where our gold lies". As South Africans we must not forget about our economy and our economic growth comes from the livestock and ploughing fields.

She further advised the community about the value of livestock and that grandfathers must not keep the livestock for too long because when it gets old its value depreciates. The mayor pleaded with community to teach the children about the values of our Heritage.

Speaking at the same event Prince Burns Ncamashe, the Deputy Chairperson of the House of Traditional leaders encouraged the youth of Bold Point to participate on traditional ceremonies and obey their parent's rules. The grandchildren of Abathembu must start digging their roots to

find their ways and it will be easy for them to choose which way to follow. "AbaThembu history must remain and never perish," said Prince Ncamashe.

He told the guests and community that children must know that education was a key to success, and must respect it. He called upon the youth to avoid alcohol because they cannot lead a nation in a correct manner if they abused alcohol.

The chief of AbaThembu Viwe Hebe expressed his words of gratitude to the community of Bold Point and to others for their support. He added that he was grateful to lead the Abathembu people as they work together. While we celebrating our cultural diversity let us also appreciate common threads such as Ubuntu that bring us together" said Chief Hebe.



Bold Point women cultural group

# COMMUNITY ADVISED TO TAKE CENTRE STAGE OF THEIR DEVELOPMENT

By Siphwo Stemele

During the installation ceremony of Chief Zwelinzima Sigidi, Chief Mwelo Nonkonyana advised people to take centre stage of their development and not wait for government.

The installation ceremony which took place on 19 August 2016, at Sundwana Great Place near Dutywa, in the Mbashe municipality was graced by the King of Amakhosa, Mpendulo Sigcawu, MEC for Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta), Fikile Xasa, politicians, chiefs and government officials.

Speaking at the event, MEC Xasa said he felt honoured to be invited to a dignified event like the installation of Chief Zwelinzima Sigidi. He said the department of Cogta had asked Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (Contralesa) to assist with the problem of many people claiming to be chiefs whereas they not.

He advised that the ward Councillor should call government departments to account about service delivery. He appealed to the community of ward 8 to give the CDW a place to work at the Traditional Council.

Representing the Eastern Cape House of Traditional Leaders at the event, Chairperson Nkosi Ngangomhlaba Matanzima said he has known Chief Sigidi for a long time. "I know your strides in bringing development to your subjects. The development of people in education, agriculture and stock

farming are lead by a Chief, said Nkosi Matanzima.

He said when one was leading people one was bound to make mistakes "What is important is to stick to the truth and go to church when time permits," said Nkosi Matanzima. He advised Chief Sigidi not to involve himself in politics. He also said that the abuse of liquor used to be an urban practise and called upon rural people to stop being involved in that bad habit.

Giving message of support at the event, Chief Mwelo Nonkonyana from (Contralesa) said at the dawn of democracy people used to despise traditional leadership but now everybody claims to be a chief. He advised people to take centre stage of their development not wait for the government.

Chief Zwelinzima Sigidi urged the youth to respect their parents and go to school to get necessary skills that will develop the nation. He further told his subjects that he was proud of them, though at times they (chief & his subject) do not see eye to eye.

In addition the Chief thanked MEC Xasa for responding to their needs before handing over gifts to the MEC which were traditional bead work and blanket. He requested MEC to ask municipalities to build Traditional Councils in rural areas instead of halls.



MEC Xasa handing over a Certificate of recognition to Chief Zwelinzima Sigidi



MEC Xasa opening Traditional Council during installation of Chief Sigidi



From Left: King Mpendulo Sigcawu, Chief Sigidi, Chief Dalubuhle Sigidi and Chief Sibongile Dimalisile

# GOGTA

## THROUGH PICTURES



From left: MEC Xasa , Ms Bulelwa Tunyiswa -Deputy speaker of the Eastern Cape Legislature and MEC Pemmy Majodina for the Department of Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture



Mr Vuyo Mlokothe facilitating at the Councillor Induction Programme for Buffalo City municipality



Councillors of the Buffalo city municipality during the Councillor Induction Programme at East London



Mr Sonwabo Gqeqge facilitating at the Councillor Induction Programme for Amathole District municipality taking place at Bisho



Mr Mxolisi Koyo- Provincial Chairperson of South African Local Government Association(Salga) during the launch of the Councillor Induction Programme



A councillor making a contribution at the Councillor Induction programme for Amathole District Municipality



From left: Ms Nomsa Mabanga, Senior Manager Traditional Leadership Capacity Building , Mr Zingisa Mkabile , General Manager- Municipal Governance, Support and Monitoring Services and Thando Sonjica – Assistant Manager Corporate Communication at the launch of Councillor Induction Programme.



Traditional leaders at the unveiling of the Tombstone of Chief Tyali in Alice.