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**mdda**  
MEDIA DEVELOPMENT & DIVERSITY AGENCY

## Safe return of 716 initiates celebrated in KwaMhlanga

● EMMANUEL N. MTHIMUNYE

**KWAMHLANGA** – A total of 716 initiates returned home safely after completing the initiation programme at Kgoshi Mashilo Initiation School on Sunday, 28 June 2026.

Community leaders celebrated the successful completion of the programme, with no fatalities or injuries reported.

Kgoshi Speedy Mashilo, who also serves as the Mpumalanga MEC for Human Settlements, Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGHSTA), said he was pleased that all 716 initiates had returned home healthy and safe. "Twenty-four schools are closed because they are illegally operating and we cannot accept them. We've got over 921 initiation schools that are legally operating in Mpumalanga," he said.

"We are urging people to stop opening illegal initiation schools because they are very dangerous. All initiation schools must be registered and known by traditional leaders so that if anything happens, the initiates are protected." Through COGHSTA, the provincial government is responsible for overseeing and coordinating the initiation season, including the registration and monitoring of initiation schools, promoting compliance with legislation and safety standards, working with traditional leaders and law enforcement, and helping prevent illegal initiation schools to safeguard initiates. One of the oldest graduates, 43-year-old Dumisani Mahlangu, said he was grateful to have completed the initiation

process.

"I'm very happy that finally I've managed to go and perform my culture. All I want to say is that there's no one who will force you to go to initiation school if you are not ready. It takes time. A person must open their heart and be willing. I'm very glad that today I've managed to perform my culture with dignity and pride."

Mahlangu encouraged others to attend initiation school when they feel ready and to preserve their culture.

Speaking to a young graduate, 11-year-old Lebohang Letsholo from Nkangala Dark City, said the experience was challenging, but elders guided them throughout the process.

"It was a new environment for us young ones, but we survived because our elders taught us every step of the way. I'm proud to be a graduate today. I'm going home with respect for my parents and my elders. I'm still young at eleven, so I'm going back to school to focus on my studies."

Letsholo said he was grateful for the care, support and guidance he received during the initiation programme.

Speaking to Highveld Chronicle, Patrick Masanabo, whose son was among the graduates, said he visited the initiation school almost every day throughout the

programme. "I'm confident that everything we taught my son, together with what he learnt during initiation, will stay with him. I pray that he returns to school with the same respect and dedication he had before."

Kgoshi Mashilo urged the graduates to return to school to complete their studies or go back to work if they were employed.

"They must preserve their culture at all times and always show respect. Being initiated does not mean they should treat other people differently. They are now expected to understand and respect everyone with dignity."



Kgoshi Speedy Mashilo and Mpumalanga MEC for Human Settlements, Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs welcome the initiate graduates home.

## Bail application in eMalahleni soccer coach molestation case postponed after third charge added

*'Any individual who commits an assault against our players is permanently banned from our leagues and held legally accountable' - eMalahleni Local Football Association*

● RODNEY HLATSHWAYO

**EMALAHLENI** – The Witbank Magistrate's Court on Thursday, 02 July 2026, postponed the bail application of eMalahleni development soccer coach Samson Sifiso Mathebula to 09 July 2026 after the State added a third charge alleging the sexual molestation of a minor boy.

Mathebula had been expected to formally apply for bail, but the matter was postponed to allow the additional charge to be incorporated into the existing case. He remains in custody pending his next court appearance.

Community members, the mothers of the alleged victims and gender-based violence activists gathered outside the court in support of the complainants, calling for the accused to be denied bail.

Abongile Mcoki, founder of All Voices Matter, said the organisation strongly opposes bail for those accused of sexually abusing children.

"We do not condone sex offenders getting bail. He cannot be facing three charges and be roaming the streets of eMalahleni. We want him to remain behind bars," Mcoki said.

In a statement, the eMalahleni Local Football Association (LFA) said it "continues to stand firmly with the young victims and remains committed to absolute transparency as this situation unfolds."

The association confirmed that

"three brave young boys have come forward to report the abuse they endured, with the number of those affected more likely to increase." It added that it had moved swiftly to engage the affected families, initiate internal processes and cooperate with law enforcement.

The LFA further stated that it is working with the South African Police Service (SAPS) to ensure that "any individual who commits an assault against our players is permanently banned from our leagues and held legally accountable."

The association also urged parents to verify that football academies are officially affiliated with the LFA, ensure coaches have undergone the necessary vetting and qualifications, and contact the association directly if they have concerns about an academy's legitimacy.

The matter was postponed to Thursday, 09 July 2026, when Mathebula's formal bail application is expected to be heard.



Accused soccer coach Samson Mathebula

"the path of the righteous winds upwards to flee from hell beneath us" Prov 15:24



## Six Reasons for Knowing God's Word

By Pastor Chuck Swindoll

Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. But they delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day and night. They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do. (Psalm 1:1-3)

1. Why is it so important to be well-grounded in the truth of God? Why bother to know the scoop? Why not leave that responsibility to the missionary and minister? Let me suggest six specific reasons. There may be many more, but these six are essential. Each one is something we must personally enter into.

2. Knowledge gives substance to faith. On what do those who do not know the truth rely? On emotion, on feelings, on someone else's opinion, on a book, on tradition, or some other empty, humanistic hope. And the result? Their faith lacks substance. That is especially revealing when they are under attack or when testing comes. That thought introduces the next benefit.

3. Knowledge stabilizes us during times of testing. When we know what God has said, and then we go through a period of pain when the bottom virtually drops out of our life, we don't panic, we don't doubt, we don't skip the faith. The knowledge we have gained stabilizes us and equips us with essential, calming fortitude when the tests come.

Knowledge enables us to handle the Bible accurately. By knowing the general themes of Scripture, we are better able to handle the Scriptures intelligently and wisely. A working knowledge of the doctrines, for example, gives us confidence in using Scripture.

4. Knowledge equips us to detect and confront error. As I mentioned earlier, when you know where you stand spiritually, no one can get you off course. When you're hearing erroneous information, you don't need someone to nudge you and say, "Did you get that? Listen to that. That's not true, is it?" Or "You know, in light of what Scripture teaches, what he just presented is out of whack." Why? Because you have gone to the trouble to know the scoop. You can't be intimidated. Your antennae have been sensitized.

5. It makes us confident in our daily walk. Show me a person who stumbles along in the Christian faith, and I'll show you a person who isn't exposing himself or herself to a consistent intake of the Scriptures. The learning process has somehow been stifled, interrupted, or put on "hold." Biblical knowledge and personal confidence are like Siamese twins, inseparably linked together.

6. A good foundation of spiritual truth filters out our fears and superstitions. How important! God's truth has a way of silencing those erroneous voices that would otherwise siphon our inner energy and immobilize us.

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# Government promises tighter enforcement of Immigration Act after eMalahleni march

● LUCAS SHONGWE

**EMALAHLENI** – Thousands of residents marched to the eMalahleni Municipal Offices on Tuesday, 30 June 2026, demanding stricter action against undocumented immigrants, with government pledging stronger enforcement of the Immigration Act and a formal response to their memorandum. Nkangala District Mayor Thomas Ngwenya received the memorandum on behalf of Mpumalanga Premier Mandla Ndlovu and said government shared the marchers' concerns.

"Thank you for turning out in your numbers to raise your concerns. We share your concerns, particularly the high unemployment rate in our communities," Ngwenya said.

"We are also concerned that the influx of undocumented immigrants is placing pressure on government services," he added. Ngwenya said government would strengthen enforcement of existing legislation.

"By working together, we will overcome the challenges we face. We will ensure that all laws are tightened," he said.

"Our law enforcement agencies must ensure that all laws governing the country, including the Immigration Act, are adhered to and implemented. We will ensure that all undocumented immigrants are deported in line with the law."

He said the memorandum would be considered within the organisers' deadline.

"We will take this memorandum, study it carefully and respond within the specified time frame," Ngwenya said.

March and March organiser Njabulo Mbhele said the protest was driven by frustration over unemployment, safety and service delivery across Nkangala.

"We called this march because residents are struggling under

mounting pressure," Mbhele said.

"Unemployment is high, basic services are stretched, and people are increasingly concerned about crime and individuals residing here without valid documentation. We needed a collective voice to be heard."

Mbhele said the movement wants government to commit to clear, time-bound interventions.

"Our expectation is that the government must apply the law consistently and decisively, beginning with the Immigration Act," he said.

"We want undocumented persons removed according to legal processes and stricter requirements for documentation. The government should also partner with us, law enforcement and NGOs to educate the public on these risks and improve joint efforts to address trafficking and exploitation." The movement expects a formal government response by 10 July 2026. The memorandum raises concerns about unemployment, crime, service

delivery and immigration enforcement, citing the Constitution and the Immigration Act.

Among its demands, the movement called for the swift removal of undocumented individuals in line with South African and international law. It also urged government to review and strengthen immigration policy to ensure all residents are properly documented. In addition, the group called for investigations and decisive action against fraudulent documents and identity theft.

The memorandum further called for

public awareness campaigns and stronger cooperation between law enforcement, local government and NGOs to combat drug-related crime, human trafficking and exploitation.

Also present were Mpumalanga Provincial Police Commissioner Major General Dr Zeph Mkhwanazi, eMalahleni Mayor Vusi Nhlapho, Speaker Millicent Shabangu and several councillors.

Police maintained a heavy presence throughout the march route, and no incidents of violence or looting were reported.



Nkangala District Mayor Thomas Ngwenya (centre) accepts and signs the memorandum

## Malawian and Zimbabwean nationals shelter at Middelburg taxi rank amid repatriation drive

● LUCAS SHONGWE

**MIDDELBURG** – Scores of Malawian and Zimbabwean nationals are temporarily sheltering at the Middelburg United Long Distance Taxi Association (MULDTA) taxi rank as repatriation efforts continue in the wake of the March and March protests.

More than 150 foreign nationals were reportedly gathered at the taxi rank, where officials from the Malawian and Zimbabwean consulates were assisting them.

Unconfirmed reports allege that the association assisted in transporting migrants to their respective consulates in Johannesburg as part of arrangements for their repatriation.

"These arrangements come from an understanding we have with their consulates to help manage the situation as more foreign nationals come to the rank to return to their own countries," said an individual whose name is being withheld pending confirmation of his position at MULDTA.

The individual said the priority at the taxi rank was the safety of those awaiting repatriation.

"We have to make sure they are protected while they are waiting to be deported."

The publication also spoke to a 49-year-old Zimbabwean woman at the taxi rank, who asked not to be identified. She said she arrived on Wednesday after being evicted by her landlord.

"He told me to go because he feared the March and March people will attack us and him when they find out we are still here," she said.

Since Tuesday, the March and March protests have gained significant support in Middelburg. Organisers say they intend holding weekly marches and are calling for businesses owned by undocumented foreign nationals to close.

March and March convenor Sifiso Masemola denied allegations that protesters had attacked foreign nationals.

"While the movement is intensifying efforts to shut down businesses owned by foreign nationals and calling for illegal immigrants to leave the country, those activities have so far been carried out peacefully and in a manner that is in line with the law," Masemola said.

"No incidents of violence have been reported and we do not threaten people with violence," he said.



Malawian and Zimbabwean nationals shelter at the Middelburg taxi rank after leaving rented accommodation amid the March and March protests.

## CALL FOR FASHION DESIGNERS & VISUAL ARTISTS



Exxaro in partnership with The Fashion Firm invites interested emerging fashion designers and visual artists from Exxaro host communities: Leeuwpan Mine (Victor Khanye Local Municipality), Belfast Mine (Emakhaseni Local Municipality), Matla Mine (Emalahleni Local Municipality), Grootegeluk Complex (Lephalale Local Municipality) to apply for a six-month incubation programme.

The programme will provide creative and professional development through masterclasses led by industry experts, covering the business of fashion, professional practice, jewellery design, gallery systems, art collection, and copyright and intellectual property.

It is designed to empower young creatives, build sustainable careers, and connect host community talent to local and international markets.



### PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS:

- Applicants must be between 18 and 40 years of age.
  - Applicants must be South African citizens or legally residing in South Africa with a valid passport or relevant documentation.
  - Applicants must be from the host communities identified for this programme.
- Applicants must be able to submit a lookbook or portfolio of their work as part of the application process.

### SUBMISSION:

Submit your application via email to [incubation@thefashionfirm.co.za](mailto:incubation@thefashionfirm.co.za)

OR

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DEADLINE: FRIDAY, 31 JULY 2026

For enquiries, contact The Fashion Firm on 066 508 7773 or visit [www.thefashionfirm.co.za](http://www.thefashionfirm.co.za)



# EXXARO LEEUWPAN ESD PROGRAMME CELEBRATES GRADUATION MILESTONE

ADVERTORIAL

**W**hat began as a bold investment in local entrepreneurship on 6 May 2024 reached a significant milestone on 30 June 2026, when Exxaro Leeuwpan Mine celebrated the graduation of nine entrepreneurs who successfully completed the two-year Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) Programme.

Launched as part of Leeuwpan's Social and Labour Plan (SLP), the programme aims to promote economic empowerment, support small business growth and contribute to sustainable community development. In partnership with Raizcorp, participants received two years of business development support, mentorship, coaching and practical training in key areas such as business strategy, financial management, marketing, operations and leadership.

The graduation ceremony celebrated the commitment and resilience of the entrepreneurs, who have worked hard to strengthen their businesses and position them for long-term success. Following an overview of the programme and its impact by Sechaba Tselana, Manager Stakeholder Relations at Leeuwpan mine, graduates received their certificates and appreciation gifts from representatives of Exxaro Head Office, Zola Kgaka, Exxaro's Leeuwpan General Manager, Ronald Teffo and the Mayor of Victor Khanye Local Municipality, Cllr Vusi Buda.

The graduates were Charlotte Sibanyoni, Arthur Mashabela, Lunga Mashiyane, Queeneth Sibande, Kagiso Seakgoe, Aphiwe Matosa, Doctor Msiza, Lucas Sibanyoni and Bandile Zikhali.

The event also featured a motivational address by Tumi Malefu, words of support from Victor Khanye Local Municipality Mayor Cllr Vusi Buda, and closing remarks by Leeuwpan General Manager Ronald Teffo, who congratulated the graduates and encouraged them to continue their journey of discipline, dedication and determination in growing sustainable businesses that will create opportunities within their communities.

Leeuwpan mine wants to congratulate all nine graduates on this outstanding achievement.

**"Their success reflects Exxaro Leeuwpan's ongoing commitment to empowering local entrepreneurs and building thriving, sustainable communities." - Ronald Teffo, Leeuwpan General Manager**



Nine entrepreneurs in graduation regalia at the Leeuwpan ESD Programme ceremony, 30 June 2026

## THE GRADUATES

Charlotte Sibanyoni  
Arthur Mashabela  
Lunga Mashiyane  
Queeneth Sibande  
Kagiso Seakgoe  
Aphiwe Matosa  
Doctor Msiza  
Lucas Sibanyoni  
Bandile Zikhali



Graduates joined by Exxaro Head Office and mine representatives, and Victor Khanye Local Municipality, Executive Mayor Cllr Vusi Buda

## Veteran Delmas detective dies in head-on collision while on duty

*'Not just a protector of the public, but a man of profound honour who wore his uniform with unmatched pride.'* - Mayor Buda

● RODNEY HLATSHWAYO

**DELMAS** – The Delmas community is mourning the loss of veteran detective Captain John Mothupi (59), who died in a head-on collision while on duty on Thursday, 02 July 2026, on the R50 between Etwatwa and Pretoria.

According to the Office of the Acting Provincial Commissioner of the South African Police Service (SAPS) in Mpumalanga, Captain Mothupi, who was attached to the Delmas Detectives Unit, was driving a state-owned Toyota Hilux double cab when it collided head-on with a private vehicle travelling in the opposite direction.

Emergency Medical Services declared Captain Mothupi dead at the scene, while the driver and passenger of the private vehicle sustained serious injuries and were transported to hospital for treatment.

The Acting Provincial Commissioner of SAPS in Mpumalanga, Major General (Dr) Zeph Mkhwanazi, described Mothupi's death as a devastating loss to both the police service and the community he faithfully served.

"Captain Mothupi served the SAPS with diligence and commitment. His passing is a great loss to the SAPS and the community that he served with loyalty," said Mkhwanazi.

A case of culpable homicide has been opened at Delmas SAPS, and the circumstances surrounding the crash

remain under investigation.

Captain Mothupi was widely regarded as one of Delmas' most experienced detectives, earning respect for his commitment to solving complex cases and ensuring justice for victims. His passing has prompted an outpouring of tributes from colleagues, community leaders and residents.

Executive Mayor of Victor Khanye Local Municipality Vusi Buda described Captain Mothupi as "a true giant among men" whose legacy would live on for generations.

In a tribute to the Mothupi family, Buda said the late captain was "not just a protector of the public, but a man of profound honour who wore his uniform with unmatched pride," thanking the family for sharing him with the people of Victor Khanye and South Africa.

The mayor further described Captain Mothupi as "one of the most outstanding detectives the Victor Khanye area has ever seen," praising his "sharp mind, relentless pursuit of truth, and commitment to law and order."

"The legal system has lost a brilliant mind, the police service has lost a fearless captain, and our streets have lost a guardian angel. Rest in eternal peace, Bra John. Your watch is over, but your impact will never be forgotten,"

Buda said.

Community activist Dikgetse "Slash" Sepenyane recalled rushing to the accident scene after hearing about the crash.

He said Captain Mothupi joined SAPS at a young age and established himself as one of Mpumalanga's most respected detectives through his unwavering commitment to justice. According to Sepenyane, he was known for conducting meticulous investigations and presenting compelling evidence in court.

"He worked with dedication, commitment and resilience. He was one of the best detectives that you can find in South Africa. He would not rest until suspects were behind bars," Sepenyane told Highveld Chronicle.

Sepenyane said the detective was relentless in pursuing criminals, particularly those involved in maize theft, and that his death had left an irreplaceable void in the community.

"This community has lost one of its most dedicated civil servants. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, colleagues and everyone who respected him. There will be no one to close the gap he leaves behind."

Milton Kubayi, Public Relations Officer in the province stationed at the Delmas Community Police Forum (CPF), said Captain Mothupi was respected for his

honesty, integrity and dedication to serving the community.

"Captain Mothupi never compromised on his work. He was dedicated, always striving to resolve crime issues affecting the community and was always willing to help those in need. He was not one to take bribes and fought tirelessly against the diesel syndicate because he wanted to put an end to their criminal activities. Delmas has suffered a great loss. We have lost an honest and trusted member of the Detective Unit whose commitment to justice and service will never be forgotten," said Kubayi.

Captain Mothupi's death has also sparked an outpouring of grief on social media, where residents, current and former colleagues, community organisations and public officials have shared heartfelt tributes celebrating his life and service. Many described him as a fearless, humble and compassionate detective whose commitment to fighting crime earned him the trust and admiration of the Delmas community. Others said his passing marks the end of an era in local policing and that his legacy of integrity, professionalism and dedication will continue to inspire future generations of police officers. Investigations into the crash are continuing. Social media user Princess Ntombikayise Mashinini described him as one of the most dedicated detectives she had ever



The late Captain John Mothupi (59)

encountered.

"The SAPS and the entire community of Delmas have suffered a painful loss with the passing of Detective Mothupi. He was one of the most dedicated detectives I have ever encountered, a man who truly loved his work and served with passion, courage and commitment."

She said Captain Mothupi had a remarkable ability to solve complex cases and bring justice to victims, adding that his professionalism and unwavering dedication to protecting the community would never be forgotten.

## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE REMOVAL OF FERROUS, NON-FERROUS METALS, RUBBER CONVEYOR BELT AND USED OIL

Exxaro Coal (PTY) LTD, company registration no 2000/011078/07, is a private company registered in terms of the Company Laws of the Republic of South Africa and looking for suppliers to provide a service of collecting Ferrous and Non-Ferrous material, Rubber conveyor belt and used oil at Exxaro Leeuwpan Coal Mine.

You are hereby invited to express your interest by registering on the Exxaro Coupa Supplier Portal which is a self-service registration process using <https://exxaro.microsoftcrmportals.com/Account/Login/Register?returnUrl=%2F> and follow the instructions below:

REFERENCE Nr.	LP_Engineering_Sourcing Request_236439
NAME OF BU:	EXXARO LEEUWPAN COAL MINE
DESCRIPTION OF ENQUIRY:	Removal of Ferrous, Non-Ferrous Materials, Rubber Conveyor Belts and Used Oil
ACTION REQUIRED FROM RESPONDENTS:	<p>1) All interested parties should follow the following instructions:</p> <p>a) For new suppliers, register their company as a prospective supplier using the link below and the Reference Number indicated above: <a href="https://www.exxaro.com/suppliers#Prospective-Supplier">https://www.exxaro.com/suppliers#Prospective-Supplier</a></p> <p>b) Existing suppliers do not complete point (a), instead, please include your current vendor number in an email as per the point 2 below.</p> <p>2) Send an email to <a href="mailto:SCMOPENRFI@exxaro.com">SCMOPENRFI@exxaro.com</a> with the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For existing registered suppliers: please only send the requested information and provide you vendor number.</li> <li>• Your company profile,</li> <li>• Latest valid BBBEE Certificate,</li> <li>• CIPC Company Registration Document</li> </ul> <p>NB: Emails sent to <a href="mailto:SCMOPENRFI@exxaro.com">SCMOPENRFI@exxaro.com</a> must include the reference number indicated above as the Email Subject.</p>
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### SUMMARY OF SCOPE OF WORK

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Exxaro Leeuwpan Mine is an open cast coal mine within the coalfields of the Mpumalanga Province of South Africa. The mine is situated about 3 Km outside the town of Delmas in the Victor Khanye Local Municipality.

As part of the mine day to day operations various waste streams are generated. As a result of this, the mine currently requires services from suitable service providers that can sort, cut into pieces where necessary and remove Ferrous and non-Ferrous metals, rubber conveyor belts and used oil from site to the processors/upstream buyers.

#### 2. DISCUSSION

Three service providers are required for following services:

##### 2.1 FERROUS AND NON-FERROUS METALS, RUBBER CONVEYOR BELT AND USED OIL

- a) The service provider shall be responsible for sorting, cutting where necessary and collection from site of Ferrous and Non-Ferrous metals.
- b) The service provider shall be responsible for rolling, cutting where necessary and loading of the rubber conveyor belt on to their own truck.
- c) The service provider shall be responsible for the collection of used oil, the used oil is stored in one of the bult tanks at the engineering workshop.
- d) The service provider shall have an appropriate truck that complies with the regulations to collect, store and transport hazardous material
- e) The service provider shall have all the necessary permits to execute the work.
- f) The mine shall not assist in the execution of this work, the service provider shall bring appropriate tools and equipment to fully execute the work.
- g) The service provider shall have own truck to collect material from Leeuwpan mine, diesel shall be for the service providers account, the mine will not supply any diesel to the service provider.
- h) Upon entry to the mine, the truck collecting the metals shall be weighed at the weighbridge will empty and weighed again upon exiting the while loaded with metals to determine the mass of the metals collected.
- i) The service provider shall have all the necessary tools and equipment to execute the work, the mine shall not assist with any tools or equipment. Any tools and/or equipment brought to the mine shall be inspected before use and shall comply to the mine standards and requirements, this is to ensure safety.
- j) The service provider shall comply to all relevant Leeuwpan mine procedures
- k) The service provider shall ensure its staff is fully trained and competent to execute this work, this will include mine inductions, medicals etc.
- l) The service provider shall provide PPE to their workforce, the mine will not provide any protective equipment. The PPE shall comply with the mine standard and shall be approved by the mine hygienist.
- m) The service provider shall report on all volumes removed from site and the volumes shall align with the mine's weighbridge data

#### 3. PROPOSAL

The service provider shall send a proposal to Leeuwpan which will include the following

- a) Pricing (rand value) of ferrous metal per tonne offered to Leeuwpan mine
- b) Pricing (rand value) of rubber conveyor per meter and/or per tonne offered to Leeuwpan mine
- c) Pricing (rand value) of oil per litre offered to Leeuwpan mine
- d) Operational plan of how this work will be managed
- e) Risk assessment which covers safety and environmental aspect for safe removal of these materials
- f) Submissions of applicable waste management, transport permits and certificates
- g) Details of legally registered processor or upstream buyer

#### 4. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- a) Collection of any of the above-mentioned materials can only be done weekdays, Monday to Thursday, 08:00am till 15:00pm and on Fridays 08:00am till 13:00pm
- b) No weekends collection will be allowed
- c) Upon arrival for collection, first report to Leeuwpan mine supply chain management department which will then contact the area responsible foreman
- d) The truck collecting any of the above-mentioned material shall be weighed twice at the mine weigh bridge. It shall be weighed upon entry before is loaded with any material and also when it exits the mine after being loaded.
- e) The truck collecting any of the above-mentioned material shall always be escorted while driving inside the mine.

**ONCE ALL INTERESTED PARTIES HAVE REGISTERED ON THE EXXARO COUPA SUPPLIER PORTAL AS PER THE ABOVE INSTRUCTION BY FRIDAY, 31 July 2026, Time: 14:00, A FORMAL REQUEST FOR QUOTES WILL BE ISSUED TO THOSE THAT HAVE REGISTERED VIA THE PORTAL.**

# ISIKO LETHU

# Our Story



WITH SIPHO MAHAMBA

## ILIZWI

### Umbhalo

Umbhalo uphawula izinto ezihlanu eziqakathekileko umuntu azitlhogela ukuphila.

- \*Ndzotho (brown) - Inarha (land)
- \*Sarulana (yellow) - Ilanga (sun)
- \*Stinyana (Navy Blue) - Amanzi (water)
- \*Bomvu (red) - iingazi (blood)
- \*Hlaza green) - iintjalo (plantation)

Imibala yombhalo ayivundlwa, ijama rwe nawuwembetheko, ukutjengisa ipilo eyakhiweko ephasini. Ukhombisa ubudlelwana bangokommoya hlangana kwamafu ne phasi, isib. Ikambiso yamanzi ubuya emafini iye phasi begodu amanzi abuya Emlanjeni elwandle

arhwamuke abuyele phezulu abumbe amafu kubenezulu, leli elibuyela phasi. Lokho kutjengisa isigaba sepilo esingunaphakade nesingapheliko.

Isigaba sepilo siyala indlela isitjhaba samaNdzundza ekufanele sembatho ngayo abogedlana.

Abobaba abathetheko ambatha abogedlana abastinyana nabamhlophe k'phela, ukuphawula amandla wamanzi (amanzi abuphilo). Umbala ostinyana uphawula amanzi, omhlophe utjho ukuthi amanzi aletha mkhanyo esitjhabeni. Ngaphandle wamanzi isitjhaba sisebumnyameni ngombana angeze sakghona ukuphuluka.

Ingwenyama ngiyo yodwa efaka ugedlana obomvu ngombana ngubaba wesitjhaba. Umbala ubomvu utjho ukuthi soke sibantwana beNgwenyama/sibuswa yiNgwenyama.

Ngokuya ngemibala emithathu eNgwenyameni, abomma basebenzisa imibala izuba nobukhobe.

\*umbala obukhobe uyihlanganiso yombala obomvunomhlophe. \*umbala ozuba uyihlanganiso yombala ostinyana nomhlophe. Lokhu kusiphawulo sokobana abomma ngibo ababelethi besitjhaba.

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Officials from Thembisile Hani Local Municipality and TS Galaxy management show solidarity following the signing of the hosting agreement. PICTURE: THLM

## TS Galaxy to host PSL matches at Solomon Mahlangu Stadium under THLM agreement

EMMANUEL N. MTHIMUNYE

**THEMBISILE HANI** – Thembisile Hani Local Municipality (THLM) has signed a hosting agreement with Premier Soccer League (PSL) club TS Galaxy FC that will see the club host selected PSL matches at Solomon Mahlangu Stadium.

The agreement was signed on Wednesday, 01 July 2026, at TS Galaxy's offices in Sandton, Johannesburg.

Municipal Manager Dumisani Mahlangu said the partnership marks a significant milestone for sport and development in the municipality and will bring top-flight football to the area.

"The hosting of Premier Soccer League (PSL) matches will increase tourism on matchdays, support small businesses and create temporary employment. This will boost our local and township economy," said Mahlangu.

Community stakeholders welcomed the agreement.

Speaking to *Highveld Chronicle*, Ndebele activist Thando Mahlangu said: "Through soccer, this is a platform

for us Ndebele people to unite and support TS Galaxy. It is going to showcase our culture, create work for our people, and boost our local economy."

Shakes Kabini, founder of the Shakes Rotating Tournament, said the agreement could help develop local football talent.

He said the partnership comes at the right time to nurture young players and create opportunities for them to be scouted by professional clubs.

"This partnership will also help limit drug abuse among youth in Thembisile by giving young people sporting opportunities," said Kabini.

He expressed hope that the three-year agreement with TS Galaxy would be extended beyond its initial term.

Kabini thanked the municipality for creating opportunities for the community and promoting social development through sport.

He also welcomed the

municipality's reported plans to build a sports centre in Kwaggafontein, saying additional sporting facilities are needed to develop young talent.

He said the partnership has the potential to make a meaningful difference in the lives of young people and local sports enthusiasts.

The municipality also highlighted the social impact of the agreement. Mahlangu said the initiative is aimed at promoting youth participation in sport and keeping young people engaged in positive activities. He said this would contribute to efforts to reduce crime and substance abuse in the community.

The municipality said the agreement forms part of a broader strategy to position Thembisile Hani as a destination for professional sporting events and broader socio-economic development.

Caption: Thembisile Hani Local Municipality Municipal Manager Dumisani Mahlangu signs the hosting agreement with TS Galaxy.

## Delmas fun walk promotes youth development and unity

RODNEY HLATSHWAYO

**DELMAS** – Residents from across the Victor Khanye Local Municipality put political differences aside to participate in the inaugural Uhambo Lwethemba (Journey of Hope) Fun Walk on Friday, 26 June 2026.

Organised by the Hope of Hopeless Youth Centre, the initiative aimed to promote healthy living, youth development and community unity under the theme, "Strong Youth, Strong Nation, Healthy Future."

The event attracted 210 participants, including young people, parents, community organisations and representatives from different political parties, who walked together despite their political differences.

Participants were permitted to wear political party regalia, but party banners were prohibited to ensure the focus remained on community wellbeing rather than politics. Organisers also enforced a zero-tolerance policy on violence and vulgar behaviour to maintain a safe and respectful environment.

Speaking after the event, organiser Relebohile Ndebele said the initiative was founded on the belief that communities become stronger when they prioritise youth development, health and unity.

"We wanted to create a space beyond party politics where all residents could walk together for one cause. The issues facing our youth do not belong to one political party. By welcoming everyone while keeping the focus on the people of Victor Khanye Local Municipality, we showed that communities can work together," said Ndebele.

The programme included performances

by the Sarafina Crew, while HIV/AIDS practitioners and researchers engaged participants through awareness sessions and discussions on healthy lifestyles.

Community stalls also provided local businesses and vendors with an opportunity to showcase and sell their products.

Although organisers had expected more than 300 participants, as well as support from the South African Police Service (SAPS) and emergency medical services, the event proceeded with 210 participants.

"We had hoped for over 300 participants and full safety support from SAPS and ambulance services, but despite those setbacks, 210 people still attended. Seeing young people, parents and elders walking together showed the spirit of our community."

Ndebele said the organisation hopes the initiative will empower young people and strengthen community partnerships.

"We want to shift the narrative from 'hopeless youth' to 'prioritised youth'. We are planning school visits to identify learners who need support with uniforms, shoes, books and other essentials. We also plan to roll out community outreach programmes, including food parcel campaigns, and welcome partnerships with businesses, government departments and other stakeholders."

Ndebele confirmed that the Hope of Hopeless Youth Centre plans to make the Uhambo Lwethemba Fun Walk an annual event.

"The unity we witnessed tells us this event deserves a place on the Delmas calendar. We will review this year's event and begin planning for an even bigger gathering next year."

He also thanked Thembisile Hani and Schoeman Boerdery for supporting the initiative.

The event concluded with organisers encouraging residents to continue supporting healthy lifestyles, youth empowerment and social cohesion.



## eMalahleni seniors compete for Golden Games district places

*'We must continue to look after our senior citizens and recognise the invaluable contribution they have made to society.'* - Mayor Nhlapho

NODICAH FUNDAMA

**EMALAHLENI** – Senior citizens from across the municipality competed for places in the district Golden Games during the Active Ageing Programme held at Lynnville Stadium on 26 June 2026.

The programme was hosted by the Department of Social Development in partnership with the Department of Health, Nkangala District Municipality, eMalahleni Local Municipality, State-Owned Entities (SOEs), AVBOB and Old Mutual.

The event brought together senior citizens from across the municipality to compete in the local-level Golden Games, with top performers qualifying to represent eMalahleni at the district competition.

Participants took part in a variety of sporting and recreational activities, including fast walking, athletics, ring the stick, dribbling exercises and team-building activities. The programme promoted healthy living while giving older persons an opportunity to showcase their skills in friendly competition.

Linah Mokgodi of the Eligugu Old Age Centre won the ring-the-stick competition to qualify for the district-level Golden Games.

"I am very excited that I won and proud to be an active older person. I hope to do well at district level too," she said.

"Our forum encourages us to practise all the time, and I have seen

that practising played a big role in my victory. My dream is to reach the national level."

The event was supported by eMalahleni Local Municipality Executive Mayor Vusi Nhlapho through the municipality's Transversal Unit.

Nhlapho commended stakeholders for supporting programmes aimed at improving the wellbeing of older persons.

"We must continue to look after our senior citizens and recognise the invaluable contribution they have made to society. They deserve to live in safe, healthy and supportive environments where they can continue to thrive," said Nhlapho.

He said older persons should be cared for, protected and treated with dignity and respect. Nhlapho encouraged families and communities to continue supporting older persons by creating safe and healthy environments for them.

The games promoted fitness, healthy ageing and social interaction while giving qualifying participants an opportunity to represent eMalahleni at the district competition.

The Active Ageing Programme forms part of ongoing efforts to promote healthy living and active ageing among older persons in the municipality.





### Makubephi F.C. complete unbeaten 30-match season to win Ezinambeni LFA Zonal League title

Club qualifies for Regional Playoffs and appeals for business support in bid for SAB League promotion

**NODICAH FUNDAMA**

**EMALAHLENI** – Makubephi F.C. completed a historic unbeaten season on 28 June 2026 after defeating Mighty Rangers F.C. 1-0 to win the 2025/2026 Ezinambeni Local Football Association (LFA) Zonal League title.

The victory secured the club's place in the Regional Playoffs, where they will battle for promotion to the SAB League, officially known as the Hollywoodbets Regional League. As they prepare for the next stage of their journey, the club has appealed to businesses and potential sponsors to come on board and support their promotion campaign.

The newly established club won all 30 league matches in its debut season, finishing with 90 points and scoring more than 100 goals without conceding a single draw or defeat. Striker Sizwe Motha finished as the league's top goalscorer with an impressive 55 goals, while goalkeeper Promise Ngwenyama recorded the most clean sheets in the league.

Founded on 28 February 2025 by chairman Richard Khoza, the club was established to create opportunities for talented young footballers in the Ezinambeni community. Just over a year later, that vision has become a remarkable success story.

Head coach Lihle Sibeko said the achievement was the reward for months of sacrifice and belief.

"It feels like a dream that we turned into work and then into history. For the team, it's relief, pride and joy all at once. Thirty games, no losses and no draws – we carried pressure every single week and never cracked.

"For me personally, I'm emotional. I see the sacrifices – players leaving work early, management searching for transport money and supporters standing in the sun for 90 minutes. This trophy belongs to all of them. We're not just champions. We're 'The Invincibles' now, and that feeling is forever."

Sibeko said the club's success was built on culture, discipline and belief.

"We built a family, not just a squad. The boys play for each other. There are no egos. Talent wins games, but culture, discipline and belief win leagues unbeaten."

Chairman Richard Khoza attributed the club's success to unity, hard work and commitment.

"The secret we have is that we are serious, united and hardworking. I am extremely proud of my players and the technical team, especially head coach Lihle Sibeko and team secretary Njabulo Mnguni."

He also praised the supporters for standing behind the team throughout the season.

"Our supporters have been incredible from the first day of the season. They stood by the team throughout this journey and played a huge role in our success."

Khoza encouraged young people to stay away from drugs, focus on education and participate in sport, saying it can create opportunities. He also appealed to the business community to support the club as it prepares for the Regional Playoffs.

"As we move towards the SAB League, we call on sponsors to come on board and assist us in continuing this journey."

Ezinambeni LFA chairperson Vusi Kabinde described the achievement as one of the greatest in the league's history.

"Our league has ended, and Makubephi F.C. have made history. I cannot remember the last time a team won all 30 games without a single loss or draw. They have made us proud."

Top goalscorer Sizwe Motha thanked the supporters, teammates and coaching staff.

"This title means a lot because we made history in the LFA league with no losses and no draws. We wanted to set a record this season and I am proud of what we achieved together."

Goalkeeper Promise Ngwenyama said recording the most clean sheets in the league motivates him to continue improving.

"I congratulate my teammates, the technical team and our supporters because without them, these achievements would not have been possible."

From a club founded to create opportunities for young talent to unbeaten champions in their debut season, Makubephi F.C. have written their name into the history books of local football.



Makubephi F.C. celebrate their historic Ezinambeni LFA Zonal League title after defeating Mighty Rangers F.C. 1-0

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