

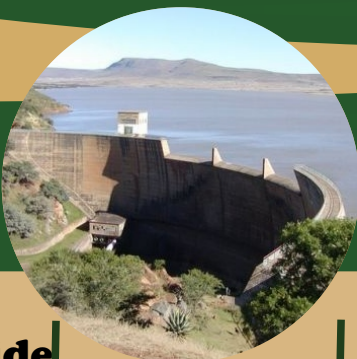


# UPHUHLISO

CHRIS HANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY NEWSLETTER

**CHRIS HANI**  
DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY  
SUSTAINING GROWTH  
THROUGH OUR PEOPLE

**VOLUME 35**



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# BULK WATER SUPPLY PROJECT TO BENEFIT 16 VILLAGES IN CACADU



*One of the beneficiaries, Mr Lumnkile Ntoni, engaging the municipality about the project during the introduction of contractor*



smooth running of the project. "We need to work together and collectively rally behind this project to minimise unnecessary delays. We also urge the community not to temper with the water infrastructure in any way including connecting illegally as these have a negative impact on the provision of water supply", she stated.

A community representative Mr Lumnkile Ntoni, who spoke on behalf of the community expressed great appreciation to the district municipality for the initiative. "We are glad that the municipality has intervened and discovered a solution to our water difficulties and that this project has produced work possibilities," he said. The project is expected to run for a duration of 12 months.

Chris Hani District Municipality has initiated the construction of a Bulk Water Supply project which will run from Lubisi Dam to Cacadu. The project will assist over 4000 households in Emalahleni Local Municipality. CHDM has also engaged project beneficiaries (residents) in both Ward 3 and 17 in the municipal area to introduce the contractor and further discuss the project in detail including employment of local people, villages to benefit, project deadlines, scope of work amongst others. This huge pipeline to be constructed has an estimation of at least 50 locals to be employed including youth and women.

The project is aimed at providing rural communities and households in the identified areas with a reliable bulk potable water supply as there is currently limited and rudimentary supply infrastructure. The water reticulation project will comprise the design, operation, and maintenance of water distribution, stormwater, pumping systems, and access chambers in addition to the building and maintenance of pipelines. Households in the area will access water supply through the bulk pipeline after water networks and connections to taps are completed.

Portfolio Head for Infrastructure, Cllr Bongeka Nobuntu, urged the contractor to be well-disciplined during the project and to develop strong positive relationships with the villages during the construction of the pipeline for the



*Portfolio Head for Infrastructure, Cllr Bongeka Nobuntu addressing community members during contractor handover*



# CONSTRUCTION OF BULK WATER SUPPLY IN CALA: RELIEF FOR MORE THAN 4000 VILLAGERS

Portfolio Head for Infrastructure  
Cllr Bongeka Nobuntu  
during contractor handover



Construction of a Bulk Water Supply Project has commenced from Lubisi Dam, which will provide relief to more than 4000 villagers in Sakhisizwe Local Municipality. This is one of the bulk water supply projects currently in the pipeline and these will be implemented by the district municipality in different areas within its jurisdiction. The introduction of the contractor to the community of Ward 4,5,6 and 8 was led by the Portfolio Head for Infrastructure, Cllr Bongeka Nobuntu, who allowed for engagements on the matter.

Employment of local people; identification of villages that will benefit, project duration and the scope of work were some of the key issues that were addressed during the engagements. About 50 local people including youth and women are expected to be employed.

This water reticulation project will not only cover the construction and maintenance of the pipeline but will include the design, operation, and maintenance of water distribution, stormwater, pumping system and access chambers. Water networks for the community to access tap water supply will be connected immediately after these. The project will take 12 months to complete.

Cllr Nobuntu urged contractors to fully commit to the project and work closely with project beneficiaries.

“As the district, we are aware of the plight of this community and we are committed to serving our communities within available resources. To safeguard this infrastructure and in ensuring its optimal performance, avoid tampering with the system and illegal connections as this has a bearing on the provision of services. Communities are affected the most when services are interrupted and this is a costly exercise for the municipality as well”, she added.

Mr Michael Siko a community representative commended the much-needed intervention by the district municipality for the project.

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*As the district, we are aware of the plight of this community and we are committed to serving it within available resources*





**CHDM Portfolio Head for Infrastructure**  
Cllr Bongeka Nobuntu

**CHDM Executive Mayor**  
Cllr Wongama Gela

# Qwebeqwe prioritised for Water Supply Infrastructure

More than 2000 villagers in Qwebeqwebe under Intsika Yethu Local Municipality will soon have access to the piped water supply as Chris Hani District Municipality has commenced with a water supply project in the area. Two villages namely, Qwebeqwebe and KuMaya with a total population of 2196 villagers and an estimated 366 will benefit from the scheme.

The appointed contractor Sime Holdings was introduced and handed over to the community by the district Executive Mayor, Cllr Wongama Gela in March this year, followed by the inception / technical handover within the same week where the site was handed over to the contractor for work to commence.

The district municipality engaged community members outlining the scope of work and the process to unfold as part of social facilitation, a standard practice for all construction projects implemented by CHDM within its area of jurisdiction. The Executive Mayor told the community that the government has made a concerted effort and great strides to build water supply infrastructure. "Qwebeqwebe village is one of the areas that the district municipality has prioritised for infrastructure construction for improved provision of services.

The project duration is estimated to be eight months with Small-Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs), sub-contractors and locals from these identified villages to provide local labour. "This is a labour intensive project and it will create job opportunities for local people.

established comprising people within the community who have a vast knowledge of the village to ensure the smooth progress of the project. The PSC will further be required to conduct monthly meetings to discuss and assess progress in this regard.

The contractor also outlined processes that will be followed in the project saying although they will bring skilled and qualified personnel, the rest of the labour force will be acquired within the community and ensure impacting of relevant skills for lifelong beneficiation. "As part of our corporate social responsibility and facilitation, we are planning to award the non-skilled workforce with certificates for on-the-job learning.

Workers will also be receiving a monthly stipend that will assist in the day- to-day running of their lives, the contractor added.

Mr Sandiso Ntsabo, a lifetime resident of Qwebeqwebe, expressed his gratitude for the planned water supply construction project stating that it is a huge relief to the community members.



**This is a labour intensive project and it will create job opportunities for local people**



# Underground water connection for the Tsitsikama community



CHDM Deputy Executive Mayor, Noncedo September with the team from the Gift of the Givers and CHDM Officials



A collaborative initiative between the district municipality and the Gift of the Givers is yielding positive results for the Tsitsikama community in Whittlesea who will now benefit from the underground water project in the area. The Tsitsikama community under Enoch Mgijima Local Municipality (EMLM) has severely been impacted by the 2018/2019 drought spell which has lingered on in the district municipality for some time affecting several areas within its jurisdiction and is one of the priority regions identified to receive governments' intervention.

To date, the Gift of the Givers Foundation has drilled 17 boreholes, 5 of these were positive to give water supply and a relief to the community Pipeline connection to the existing municipal infrastructure and the borehole outfitting project as soon as possible.

The Deputy Executive Mayor, Cllr Noncedo September, emphasised the importance of collaborations which enables a better and shared understanding of complex problems involving many stakeholders and allows these stakeholders to work together and agree on solutions to address these." Initiatives like this support the districts developmental agenda, strategic objectives and commitment towards the fulfilment of its constitutional mandate. Collaborations can create greater gains for our communities and Tsitsikima village will see the benefits through this partnership".

The Gift of Givers Dr. Gedeon Groenewald, (hydrologist, geologist, and palaeontologist) advised that their team discovered Tsitsikama hamlet during their most recent visits to small towns hit by drought

since 2018. areas. "We were called in by the President of the country to come and assist during these hard times. The work we are doing in Tsitsikama is part of that intervention. Currently, we have successfully drilled 5 boreholes in the area, and these will provide enough yield and relief to the community.

The boreholes will be utilised for both drinking water consumption and gardening. Gardening is intended to assist uplift the community's living standards thereby reducing poverty levels as this will enable the community to feed themselves and sell their produce at the same time. "If this project is a success, we will definitely duplicate the initiative to another area within the district", he added.

Chief Loyiso Mabece who is the traditional leader in the village expressed his deep appreciation for the initiative saying the community has been battling with water ever since the borehole that was drilled and commissioned by the municipality dried up. "We are grateful to the Gift of the Givers and CHDM reaching out to us once again through this initiative which will greatly benefit the community", he said

Drought has been declared a disaster in South Africa with several municipalities immensely affected including the Chris Hani District Municipality. NGOs such as the Gift of the Givers and other social partners stepped in to help mitigate the effect of the drought spell in different parts of the country.



# GBV SURVIVORS RECEIVE SEWING SKILLS



**Portfolio Head for Health & Community Services,  
Cllr Thembisile Bobo during the session**

**Survivors of Gender Based Violence  
during the training session for sewing**

**T**hirty (30) Gender-Based Violence (GBV) survivors are set to receive sewing skills from an accredited development training facilitated by a Johannesburg-based Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO), named Nyamukara Empowerment. This is a partnership between the Chris Hani District Municipality (CHDM) and the Department of Social Development. The initiative was introduced in Komani and aims to fight incidents of GBV where women are forced to stay in abusive relationships due to their unemployment status and lack of skills to secure employment.

This programme was conceptualised by a group of women who previously worked for the Edcon foundation as part of Social Development's Victim Empowerment Programme. Ms Marcia Maserumule, the Director and Co-Founder of Nyamukara Empowerment explained that "the programme is a level 2 SETA accredited programme and women enrolling for this will be taught how to use a sewing machine, using pre-existing patterns, marketing, and pricing of the product. as well looking for opportunities after completing the training" she added. The training will take place at the Ezibeleni Khuseleka One-Stop Care Centre with the provision of monthly stipends and sewing machines for participants on completion of the course.

CHDM Portfolio Head of Special Programmes Unit (SPU), Cllr Thembisile Bobo, commended the project and saying that "our responsibility as the district is to create these opportunities like these

to provide support in our communities. We want to coordinate the necessary backing for more support and numbers to make this initiative sustainable". One of the survivors benefitting from the sewing said if well supported the programme will continue to remain relevant and be a beacon of hope for countless women suffering from the plight of GBV.

"Ever since this training commenced, it has been a pleasant experience and a learning curve for all of us as most participants have never used a sewing machine before. The training gives us that hope of making our means of living beyond this and we see this as a breakthrough in our lives", said GBV Survivor.

The programme will serve as a stepping stone for a new chapter and another chance at life for GBV survivors. Mr Mzimkhulu Machemba from the Department of Social Development highlighted that the skills intensive programme is aimed to "empower GBV survivors to be independent and contribute to boosting the economy". He further called upon CHDM, the private sector and other stakeholders to continue working together to create more opportunities for others to help curb the rise of GBV incidents within the district".





Strategic Planning Session 2022

## CHDM Strategic Planning Session advancing IDP & vision 2030

CHDM Councillors, management team, sector departments, business and other relevant stakeholders engaged in a two-day strategic planning session that took place at Roydon Conference Centre in Komani to advance the district municipalities' strategic objectives, and developmental agenda and Vision 2030. The session outlined medium- and long-term development priorities in line with the IDP and National Development Plan.

Addressing the session, CHDM Executive Mayor Cllr Wongama Gela stated that to bring meaningful change to our communities and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the district municipality will put more emphasis on points 6 and 9 of the SDGs, which focus on clean water and sanitation, Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure respectively. "The district municipality strategic goals must be more on the implementation of Vision 2030 pillars; namely economically self-sustaining rural villages, infrastructure development linked to economic growth opportunities, transformed wall-to-wall land use and ownership, revitalized small towns, revitalized industries, entrepreneurial and skills development linked to key sectors, effective and efficient municipalities, and an active and capable citizenry.

Cooperation and collaborations between government and key role players are for the greater good of the community. Municipal leadership must therefore work together with sector departments, civil society, business, and all relevant stakeholders to fast-track service delivery and prioritise water and sanitation

provision including water infrastructure development, electricity, waste management and local economic development. Department of Health MEC, Ms Nomakhosazana Meth, who is the District Development Model (DDM) Champion in Eastern Cape Province deployed in CHDM. She stated that "the job of district municipalities and the provincial government is to carry out their responsibilities by assisting and strengthening service delivery initiatives in communities where local municipalities exist. Excellent interactions across these sectors (local, district, and provincial) are therefore of critical importance in the fulfilment of DDM objectives. which include stimulating new thinking, new socioeconomic paradigms, new and bold solutions and alternatives; fundamentally changing conditions in our people, economy, and space; developing district resilience and prosperity.

Mr Ronald Lamola, the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services who is the DDM Champion in addressed the session saying proper implementation of the model will have positive spin-offs for the community whose hopes and trust are vested in the government to deliver quality services. "You have seen the impact of partnerships across diverse levels of government including within this district. As you will recall, the Department of Correctional Services collaborated with the Engcobo Local Municipality to boost learning and teaching at ten schools by utilizing offender labour services. Through this programme, school desks and chairs were repaired with schools and public infrastructure renovated," the Minister said. "We have a similar programme in Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality where we are about to hand over 50 desks and 100 chairs to Macembe Primary School in Cradock, these were refurbished by inmates. The same school was refurbished last year during the December holidays where inmates painted and renovated the school", he concluded.





CHDM Portfolio Head for Health & Community Services, Cllr Sinomtha Lali during the clean up campaign building up towards the summit



Delegates during the summit

## CHDM HOSTS 3 DAY WASTE MANAGEMENT SUMMIT IN KOMANI

The Chris Hani District Municipality (CHDM), in partnership with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (DEDEAT), Chris Hani Development Agency (CHDA), Enoch Mgijima Local Municipality (EMLM) and SALGA hosted a three-day District Waste Management Summit from the 2nd to 4th of March 2022.

The summit was aimed at improving compliance in the management of landfill sites and provision of more facilities to encourage waste diversion; forging partnerships with the private sector and civil society; establishing links with local municipalities and sector departments to ensure long-term shared responsibility in waste management; giving effect to the District Development Model which encourages integrated planning, budgeting and delivery of services by all spheres; fostering a sense of national cohesion whilst acknowledging diverse circumstances and needs by providing opportunities to address waste management.

The three-day summit started off with clean-up activities in Mlungisi Township and these were led by political leadership, visits to hotspots around the Mlungisi business area with a particular focus on recycling and separation of waste; handover of wheelie bins and planting of trees in three local schools. The Mlungisi area was identified by the EMLM as a hotspot where bulk dumping of waste on sidewalks and public open areas is prevalent. Day 2 and 3 consisted of deliberations and resolutions by the various stakeholders at large.

Participants proceeded to education and awareness campaigns where learners from three local schools, namely: Van Collier Primary School, Nonesi Public Primary School and Maria Louw High School, were engaged on environmental related issues. Cllr Lali, the

Portfolio Head for Health and Community Services handed over six wheelie bins to each school for waste separation and recycling. As part of greening and beautifying schools, she further joined in tree planting and distributing promotional material to the schools. Cllr Lali advised participants that "part of maintaining a healthy environment tree planting as this immensely contributes to the oxygen we consume. We vehemently discourage acts that negatively contribute to the pollution of the environment. Littering and vandalism do not help in sustaining a good and healthy environment recycling not only helps the environment but also the economy", she stated.

The Enoch Mgijima Multi-Waste Recycling Centre in the Komaní Industrial Park area aimed to formalise the involvement of waste recyclers and maximise linkage with the market and SMMEs was also officially opened during day two of the Summit. Ms Pamela Nxumalo, from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) stated that "the project will assist towards the realisation of the National Waste Management Strategy and will further provide opportunities for value recovery, beautification, job creation and economic development within the area".

CHDM Executive Mayor, Cllr Wongama Gela, also announced the establishment of the District Waste Management Forum during the Summit plenary session held at the Radon Game Reserve saying "initiatives like these are a right step and panacea for achieving the districts' objectives in keeping a clean and healthy environment. It is, therefore, a collective responsibility to keep a clean environment and protect our planet from further environmental degradation. It is time for all of us to become responsible citizens and maintain sustainable waste practices such as recycling, reusing and reducing waste wherever possible".



**We vehemently discourage acts that negatively contribute to the pollution of the environment**





**New Shearing Shed**



**Sakhisizwe LM Mayor, Cllr Boniswa Ponoshe and CHDM Portfolio Head for IPED, Cllr Sibongile Mbotshane officially opening the brand new shearing shed**

## Three New shearing sheds for CHDM farming community

Farming communities of Sakhisizwe and Emalahleni Local Municipalities were pleased with the official opening and handover of three shearing sheds in Mnxe Village (Sakhisizwe LM), Mount Arthur and Tsawulayo in Emalahleni LM. The programme which is a poverty alleviation initiative is a partnership between Chris Hani District Municipality (CHDM), Chris Hani Development Agency (CHDA), Emalahleni and Sakhisizwe Local Municipalities and Sibanye Stillwaters aimed to afford local aspiring commercial farmers the opportunity to mass-produce and sell wool.

In March 2019, CHDM and Sibanye Gold Limited signed an amended Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) which pertains to Sibanye's Social Labour Plan project of building and equipping shearing sheds in areas identified by the CHDM to enable subsistence farmers to participate in commercial wool production. This project is the second phase of the Sibanye 2012-2016 SLP project to improve the health of livestock in the province and develop village link persons who supply animal health services. In accordance with the MoA, Sibanye has built and equipped a total of 4 shearing sheds in the district, of which two are at Intsika Yethu LM and one at Engcobo and Sakhisizwe Lms.

In addressing the farmers, CHDM Portfolio Head for Integrated Planning and Economic Development (IPED), Cllr Sibongile Mbotshane, underlined the implementation of the Masizakhe Shearing Shed as a great move for local farmers, saying "the main rationale for this partnership was to boost local economic development and bring the shearing shed closer to local farmers for

purposes of expanding their opportunities. We want people from our communities to be able to produce wool to the point of generating more profit thereby building a legacy for future generations".

Sibanye Stillwater Head of Department for Community Engagement and Development, Ms Molebogeng Motabogi-Moseki, said "the shed is a much-needed intervention that will help build and improve their farming prospects for future operations. She added that "Sibanye collaborated with CHDM and CHDA because as a mining company, we wanted to work with the government and communities to develop areas where our workforce (mine workers) come from for an opportunity to assist in growing the agricultural potential in those communities".

Cllr Boniswa Ponoshe, Mayor of Sakhisizwe LM, handed over the keys to the shearing shed and expressed her delight for the Mnxe villagers encouraging them to "safeguard the infrastructure and be vigilant of vandals in ransacking this asset".

Two more shearing sheds were handed over at Emalahleni LM. The Bangindlala and Tsawulayo Wool Growers' Associations in Mount Arthur and Tsawulayo were also thrilled to officially receive their infrastructure. The Emalahleni LM Mayor Cllr Nontombizanele Koni said she hoped that the shearing sheds will inspire locals to get into the business of farming. "Our district is well-known for its vegetation and livestock production. One of our goals as the municipality is to present our farmers with opportunities that will help develop and sustain a better life".

Other stakeholders that played a critical role in the successful completion of the 4 shearing sheds include the National Wool Growers Association (NWGA), the Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform (DRDAR), and Talitha Pharma and the broader community.





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