



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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CONTACT DETAILS OF THE GCIS PROVINCIAL OFFICES

For more information about similar programmes, which are run across the country, contact one of the following provincial offices:

EASTERN CAPE

Ndlelantle Pinyana
043 722 2602 or 076 142 8606
ndlelantle@gcis.gov.za

FREE STATE

Trevor Mokeyane
051 448 4504 or 083 255 0042
tshenolo@gcis.gov.za

GAUTENG

Peter Gumede
011 834 3560 or 083 570 8080
peterg@gcis.gov.za

KWAZULU-NATAL

Ndala Mngadi
031 301 6787 or 082 877 9420
ndala@gcis.gov.za

Job creation at the forefront of government's priorities

By Mzimasi Dyomfana, Buffalo City, Eastern Cape

Job creation remains a priority of government and the President called on all three spheres of government to align their programmes to ensure the success of this intervention.

The National Development Plan 2030, which was unveiled recently also asks for a major change in how we as South Africans go about our lives. In the past, we always expected government to do things for us but the country needs all its citizens to become active and to all work together – government, business, communities – so that people have what they need, to live the lives they would like.

It is against this backdrop that different stakeholders from the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality assembled to attend the post-SoNa information seminar that the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) organised. The GCIS coordinated the seminar as a platform for different institutions to share ideas on how to fight poverty and unemployment. The theme was *Working Together for Decent Work and Job Creation within the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality Area*.

Various speakers gave their views on the State of the Nation Address as delivered by the President as well as the importance of intensifying communication on employment opportunities and skills development with specific focus to young people.

The leadership from the small business development entities were interested in accessing platforms

to disseminate information through radio and newsletters to reach the communities they served.

Mr Alex Qunta from the Small Enterprise Development Agency, pledged to provide two local schools with training on entrepreneurship and management. He also commended the GCIS for this information seminar. He pleaded for a stronger partnership between the GCIS and Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality in the dissemination of information to the poorest of the poor.

The seminar recommended that there should be further engagements with other strategic economic institutions in the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality especially institutions such as the East London Industrial Development Zone, Transnet, Sector Education and Training Authority and the Department of Education and such information sharing sessions be held every quarter.



government
communications

Department:
Government Communication and Information System
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

LIMPOPO

Thanyani Rhavhura
015 291 4689 or 082 421 3461
thanyani@gcis.gov.za

MPUMALANGA

Tiisetso Ramotse
013 753 2397 or 072 219 5136
tiisetso@gcis.gov.za

NORTH WEST

Mareka Mofokeng
018 381 7071 or 083 382 5909
mareka@gcis.gov.za
Galebonwe Diokana
018 381 7071 or 082 559 167
galebonwe@gcis.gov.za

NORTHERN CAPE

Marius Nagel
053 832 1378/9 or 083 778 9179
mariusn@gcis.gov.za

WESTERN CAPE

Ayanda Hollow
021 421 5070 or 083 255 7665
ayanda@gcis.gov.za

Portfolio Committee on Communication Members' visit to SENTECH Transmitter Control Centre in Ermelo



The Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Communications (PCC) is constituted by Parliament to conduct oversight on behalf of all organs of state, including those at provincial and local government level. Parliament and its committees have the power to summon any person, department or institution to give evidence or produce documents.

It is against this backdrop that the chairperson and members of the PCC visited Mpumalanga from 19 to 23 March 2012. Officials from a

number of departments and communication entities accompanied PCC members when they visited the province's three districts. The main purpose of the visit was to review service delivery in the communication area and monitoring the functionality of communication platforms.

The PCC also visited three Thusong Service Centres, tele-centres, post offices, Sentech, the South African Broadcasting Corporation, local community radio stations, local print media,

Independent Communication Authority of South Africa (ICASA) projects, Media Development and Diversity Agency projects and the Universal Service and Access Agency of South Africa.

The PCC and officials joined the Human Rights Day celebrations by attending the ICASA National Consumer Awareness Campaign with the people of Bushbuckridge. Communities were afforded the opportunity to raise their communication concerns during the session.

