

RE BUA MMOGO



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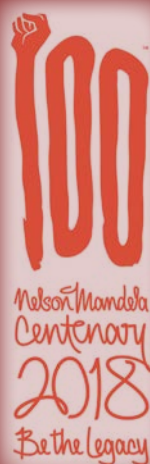
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Message from the Executive Mayor

As a district we have faced many challenges this year. Our local municipalities are experiencing difficult times both on a political as well as an administrative level and it calls on us as the leadership of this district to ensure that we become resilient.

We take heart in the fact that we have dedicated ourselves to the betterment of the lives of our communities and I can assure you that we will not rest until we have made good on the goals that we have set.

We have launched a number of programmes as part of the Thuma Mina campaign and will continue to do so in the following year.

We have an obligation to contribute toward alleviating poverty through the creation of job opportunities and initiatives to stimulate growth in this beloved district.

We will continue to build a strong relationship with national and provincial

government, our local government colleagues, and our private sector stakeholders for coordination of resources to provide basic services to our people.

This we have to do to ensure that we provide quality services to our communities in this district.

I look forward to working with Council and the administration team of Frances Baard District Municipality in the new year. I hope that many of you get a chance to rest and recoup over the festive period.

I wish everyone a restful and peaceful Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

May we all meet again in 2019.



The Executive Mayor
Mr P Marekwa



The Frances Baard District Municipality launched its *Thuma Mina* programme in Pampierstad on 07 September 2018. **Read more on PAGES 3 to 5.**

From the Municipal Manager's Desk

This edition comes at our midterm and we will be tabling our report on how we fared in the first two quarters of our financial year in January 2019.

The year has been full of both successes and challenges. With the fragile and declining financial viability of our municipality, we remain optimistic and continue to be innovative in ensuring to fulfill our mandate to the best of our ability. As the district municipality we have a responsibility to help our local municipalities, with the little that is available, to improve the lives of our communities.

Some of the challenges we have managed to resolve but some proved more difficult to complete. We will however not lose focus and will double our efforts to ensure that we provide the services.

Our local municipalities in the district are struggling to give effect to their mandate, a fact we cannot shy away from. We can assure that the Frances Baard District Municipality will not stop to give them the support that is required. We are putting all efforts to ensure that we live up to our fiduciary duty in a social contract we have with our communities.

We are looking forward to the last two quarters of our financial year and we will be taking a break for the festive

season, to come back recharged for all the tasks that lie ahead. We have also noted with with greatest concern the service protests which need a response by all relevant stakeholders to bring back stability and provide the required services to our communities.

Congratulations to Cllr Mabilo who has been elected the Executive Mayor of Sol Plaatje Local Municipality and look forward to a productive working relationship for our city.

I wish to thank the Executive Mayor and the councillors, the executive management and all staff for their commitment, patience, cooperation and hard work during the past year.

As management we are looking forward to the new year and we believe that with it will come positive changes to our current situation in the district.

Merry Christmas to you all. May you stay blessed during the festive period, and be safe on the roads for those that will be travelling. May God keep each one of you. Have a prosperous 2019.



**Municipal Manager
Ms Mamikie Bogatsu**

"May the joys of the season fill your hearts with Goodwill and cheer.
May the chimes of Christmas Glory add up more shine and spread smiles,
today and in the New Year."



**Merry Christmas and
a Prosperous 2019!**



Creating a conducive environment for development

The Frances Baard District Municipality and the Phokwane local municipality in collaboration with the Department of Economic Development and Tourism (DEDAT), aims to alleviate poverty and reduce unemployment through the cleaning and restoration of parks. The project falls under the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP).

Through the project young people will be equipped with practical skills and make them more employable for the job market. The project will require some training as the work is semi-skilled, which means workers must have the knowledge of park renovations and beautification.

On 07 September the Executive Mayor of the district municipality, Cllr. Patrick Marekwa, officially launched the project in Pampierstad.

In August this year the Frances Baard District Municipality (FBDM) also signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with DEDAT to support job creation and enterprise development. With the signing of the MOU the project will be implemented by FBDM on behalf of both DEDAT and Phokwane Local Municipality.

The intention is to make the local environment more conducive for business opportunities and leisure purposes. By beautifying the surrounding landscape the area will be more attractive for investors.

"In the past 4 years we have managed to roll out 16 EPWP projects throughout the district and created 661 job opportunities in the district."

Selection of beneficiaries

Beneficiaries who work on the project were selected from the Phokwane municipal area. Job opportunities were created for 60 beneficiaries from Pampierstad in the local municipal area. Special consideration was given to single-parent households, gender equity and youth.

The objectives of cleaning and restoration of parks is to:

- Share experience and create skills to afford youth with opportunities;
- Maintaining recreational parks;
- Provide training for youth e.g. skills and competence development; Contribute to local economic development;
- Create interests for social purposes; and
- Keep local parks clean for environmental purposes.



The Executive Mayor of the FBDM, Cllr Patrick Marekwa was joined by the Mayor of Phokwane, Cllr Maria Kalman and the Speaker of the FBDM, Cllr. Unondumiso Buda, to hand over tools and equipment to the EPWP workers who will be working in the Pampierstad area. Seen here with them is Mr Michael Setlhogomi the EPWP coordinator for Pampierstad.



The workers selected for the Pampierstad project were in attendance at the launch.

Maintenance of water & waste water treatment works in Dikgatlong

“The project will be implemented using the Expanded Public Works (EPWP) which aims to alleviate poverty and reduce unemployment.”

On Monday, 12 November 2018 the Frances Baard District Municipality launched an EPWP project in Barkly West to maintain the water and waste water treatment works of the town.

The municipality received an EPWP incentive grant of R1,113,000m for the 2018/19 financial year. Besides this project, there are other projects identified against this grant in other parts of the district.

These are as follows:

- The maintenance of streets and stormwater in Warrenton; and
- Youth Entrepreneurship Development Programme (YEDP).

The Dikgatlong project includes work to be done at all the water and sewer treatment works throughout all towns and settlements of Delportshoop, Longlongs, Barkly West and Windsorton.

The actual work activities include the cutting of grass, repairing of fencing when needed, cleaning of screens and grit channels and some refurbishment of the buildings (painting and repairs).

The above works will assist the local municipality to comply with some of the criteria relating to the Blue and Green Drop programmes championed by the Department of Water and Sanitation, which relates to housekeeping and cleanliness of the treatment works.

The project is estimated to run for eight (8) months and will provide part time work to 50 local community members.

Addressing the launch the Executive Mayor, Cllr Patrick Marekwa, urged the workers to be diligent and adhere to the working hours and to make sure they put more effort to make the project a success. “Do not take 2-hour lunches, and do not use the equipment issued to you for personal jobs at home,” he jokingly said.



Above: The Executive Mayor of the FBDM, Cllr Patrick Marekwa handed over equipment to the Mayor of Barkly West, Cllr D Mbizeni. The tools consisted of rakes, spades protective gloves and shoes and wheelbarrows.

Below: Members of the team who will be signing contracts with the local municipality and officials from the National Department Of Public Works, district municipality and local municipality who attended the launch event.



Operation clean-up to improve tourism in the district

The Frances Baard District Municipality (FBDM) in collaboration with its four local municipalities; the NGOs Live, Love, Believe and Source Point as well as the Department of Environment and Nature Conservation embarked on a tourism awareness campaign. as part of tourism month activities celebrated in September 2018.

As a precursor to the campaign and to improve the current state of cleanliness in towns in the district; FBDM along with the local municipalities have decided to embark on a clean-up campaign.

The clean-up campaign has been initiated to create awareness around the importance of keeping towns clean and visitor-friendly, thereby making the local environment more conducive for leisure and investment opportunities.

The campaign was introduced as part of nature conservation and to encourage local communities to keep their towns clean. The main aim of this is to encourage repeat visits which can contribute towards the local economy and tourism development.

The objectives of the clean-up campaign were to:

- Educate the community on the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling waste;
- Enhance awareness of the tourism and trade industry;
- Direct consumers so that the Northern Cape is kept top of the mind when selecting a local holiday destination; and
- Enhance destination visibility.

The clean-up campaign roll-out started on 13 September 2018 in Warrenton. Teams were set out to clean in and around town to make it look more attractive and welcoming for visitors and tourists.

The cleaning targeted areas within town where there is a large influx of locals, small businesses and tourists. NGOs were invited to work together with the local municipalities on the clean-up and also to create environmental awareness amongst local communities.



The Mayor of Magareng Local Municipality and the rest of the delegation handed over equipment that will be used by the cleaning team.



The teams installed dustbins in the CBD area of Warrenton (above) and cleaned the streets (below).



Status on un-swapped beneficiaries to the new SASSA gold card



A total of 6,636 beneficiaries in the Frances Baard District have not swapped their old white card with the new gold card. The highest total of outstanding cards for the Northern Cape Province which stands at 19,695.

At a district communication forum meeting held on 27 November 2018, the Senior Manager Communications at SASSA, Ms Inno Khunou presented this information to communicators from departments and local municipalities.

She indicated that SASSA is in the unfortunate position of trying to get to all beneficiaries before the cut-off date of 14 December 2018. “If beneficiaries show up at paypoints with the old white card in January 2019, SASSA will be unable to pay out their grants. The deadline for issuing the gold card will not be extended,” she said.

She indicated that while SASSA have made significant progress in migrating beneficiaries from the old card to the new gold cards, too many people were still holding on to the old card, which had reached its expiry date.

SASSA have been using a variety of communication platforms to create awareness around this topic such as television, newspapers, local community radio stations, door-to-door programmes and distribution of flyers.

The very serious danger of doing so, may lead to beneficiaries losing their benefits. Very soon SASSA will stop paying social grants into the old cards.

Affected beneficiaries are urged to visit their local SASSA office or the post office to get their new gold card.

The total number of outstanding cards in the district as per all local offices are as follows:

Local office	Number of beneficiaries
Barkly West	385
Delportshoop	155
Hartswater	258
Jan Kempdorp	442
Pampierstad	423
Ritchie	219
Warrenton	308

Local office (Kimberley)	Number of beneficiaries
Beaconsfield	333
Corless Road	599
Florianville	252
Kimberley Local	1,251
Roodepan	517
Tlhokomelo	1,494

“Visit your local SASSA office or the local post office to swap your old white card for the new gold card. Beneficiaries seeking more clarity can call the toll free number on 0800 60 11 or visit SASSA news on Facebook”

Implementation of roads asset management system to maintain roads in the district

The National Department of Transport (NDoT) identified 44 rural district municipalities in the country as beneficiaries of their rural road asset management system grant in order to assist and support the management of rural roads through the development of a Rural Road Assets Management System (RAMS).

Municipalities who received the grant must setup a rural roads assets management system and collect rural data in line with the Road Infrastructure Strategic Framework for South Africa (RISFSA). The project will yield socio-economic benefits by way of skills development and creation of job opportunities.

By virtue of its mandate the district municipality is obliged to provide and maintain road infrastructure within its area of jurisdiction. To this end the district municipality has prepared and officially adopted a business plan for this grant.

Socio-economic context

Socio-economic development and subsequent economic growth is hampered by several limiting factors, including the lack of adequate roads infrastructure. Investment in transport infrastructure plays a significant role in stimulating development.

Roads infrastructure of district municipalities with a rural component is a specific area of concern, as the development of such infrastructure has been neglected to a large extent in the past, thereby imposing significant limitations on growth and development of rural communities, in particular the integration with the urban space.

An increased interest in rural roads investment potential has developed in recent years. This is mainly due to the need for development of rural as well as the positive impact that road investment could generate on rural communities. Rural roads investment is a main concern in the fight towards poverty alleviation and economic growth.

Road network in the district

The total road network within the district amounts to 6 610.45km. The Dikgatlong local municipality constitutes a large percentage of the entire network within the district at 39% followed by Sol Plaatje local municipality at 31%. Magareng local municipality constitutes the least length of the road network at 10%. The total length of municipal roads (paved and unpaved) within the district amounts to 3,295.19km.

This includes the paved and unpaved road network.

Magareng LM has the least municipal roads at 12% followed by Dikgatlong LM at 18%. Sol Plaatje local municipality constitutes the highest percentage of municipal roads network at 39%.

Progress thus far in developing the RRAMS for the district

Frances Baard District Municipality started using the RRAMS grant during the 2015/16 financial year and has since achieved the following:

- Mobilization of the 4 local municipalities to be on-board with the RRAMS
- Recruitment of graduates to be trained as interns on the project, with the intention to absorb them under the Project Management and Advisory Services Unit of the district municipality. These interns will be used to handle the RRAMS information and other engineering related services
- Verification and validation of the road network and visual assessments of the paved and unpaved road network was completed in 2015/16 and analysis of the gathered data was completed in 2016/17
 - Designing of the pavement management system database and analysis was completed in 2015/16, reviewed in 2016/17 and 2017/18
- Designing of the gravel roads management system database and analysis was completed in 2016/17
- The RISFSA classification was completed in 2015/16 and reviewed in 2016/17 and is ongoing
- Execution of traffic counts was completed in 2016/17 and is ongoing

2018/19 work plan

During 2018/19 the following key outcomes will be achieved:

- Expedite the Graduates Absorption
- Phase 2 – Visual Assessments of the Paved Road Network
- Review of the RRAMS GIS Model
- GeoRRASM Software Development
- Preparation of RRAMS Technical Reports

“RRAMS seeks to develop a common framework for roads assets management in the country.”

Entrepreneur Week 2018

“Annually in November, thousands of events and competitions in 160 countries inspire millions to engage in entrepreneurial activities while connecting them to potential collaborators, mentors and investors. The initiative is supported by dozens of world leaders and a network of more than 15,000 partner organizations.”

The district municipality and its local municipalities partnered with SEDA and KEM-JV to host the annual entrepreneur week, which was held from 12 - 16 November 2018.

The 2018 programme included interactive sessions with participants, followed by Q&A sessions. During the week workshops were held that was geared towards giving entrepreneurs from around the district an opportunity to build the skills and relationships that will help their business ventures grow.

The programme catered to the diversity of the participants and their needs as entrepreneurs, from industry and regional focused sessions. The theme for this year was engage, connect, empower: “The key to entrepreneurial success.” Several of these topics were integrated by speakers, sponsors and exhibitors.

This year the format of the second day was changed from a plenary session running one after each other to master classes, match-making events, a Biz Olympiad, information sessions as well as industry exhibitions that were open to selected business owners and innovators.

The master classes presented by experts in their field, focussed on the development of essential knowledge required for business growth. The business match-making took place before the expo week and entailed the selection of SMMEs, after a detailed business profiling, to be linked to potential buyers, mentors or investors.

“The goal is to give more than 300 entrepreneurs and small business owners the opportunity to build the skills and relationships they need to achieve business success, and sustainable growth.”



Above: Small business owners had the opportunity to engage with sponsors and exhibitors.

Below: Inside one of the master classes presented by industry experts.



Above: At the opening gala dinner on 12 November 2018, SEDA presented participants of the Informal and Micro Enterprise Development Programme (IMEDP) with equipment such as computers and printers. Seen from left is the Chairperson for the Planning and Development Committee, Cllr. Mekgalanyane, Mr Thabo Moitsi (a participant in the IMEDP), the Mayor of Magareng Local Municipality, Cllr B. Mhaleni and the SEDA Operations Manager, Mr. Oupa Kale.

Northern Cape provincial crime statistics - how does it affect us?

“The annual crime statistics which show a general decrease in crimes across the province, except for cases such as contact sexual offences where bestiality increased - Captian Woodbridge (SAPS).”

The Premier of the Northern Cape, Ms Sylvia Lucas, noted with pride that the Minister of Police still regards the Northern Cape as the safest province to reside in.

This was revealed at an event hosted on 15 October 2018 by the Premier’s Office to announce the 2017/2018 Crime Statistics Report.

The Northern Cape Police Commissioner, Lieutenant General Shivuri made all who were present aware that the police have intensified their efforts in combating crime and hence we see the trend of a decrease. The increase in crimes detected by police shows that our SAPS members are increasing visibility.

SAPS has started to focus on a “Roadmap to 2019 National Elections” campaign where police will intensify their efforts to combat politically motivated crimes and keep our communities safe during the elections period. The “Junior Commissioner” programme focuses on the age group 18 - 35 with the aim of curbing crimes against the youth while the “Youth on Business” program will promote entrepreneurial spirit amongst those unemployed in our society.

The Lieutenant-General noted that it is always important for SAPS to work with Community Policing Forums to identify youth for training as reservists and for those over the age of 35 to be referred to the Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison for training as street patrol agents.

Premier Lucas commended the South African Police Service for the decrease shown in business related crimes because this shows the situation is not stagnant. There is a decrease in most crimes which have been a concern and although this is good news, we can only be fully satisfied when we can guarantee the complete safety of our communities.

Those harbouring criminals are hampering the efforts of our men and women in uniform in creating a safer society for all.

The trust between SAPS and members of society needs to be strengthened so that when one sees the blue uniform, they may be confident and know that they are safe.



Pictured above from left: The MEC for Environmental Affairs and Nature Conservation, Ms Pauline Williams; The MEC for Education, Ms Martha Bartlett; he Premier of the Northern Cape, Ms Sylvia Lucas; the MEC for Transport, Safety and Liaison, Mr Lebogang Motlhaping and the Northern Cape Police Commissioner, Lieutenant-General Risimati Shivuri.

“We need to observe that many instances reported of social fibre crimes are of community members against each other and not necessarily by strangers. It is important to realise that statistics are a representative median of less crime-ridden areas and most crime –ridden areas and an average is drawn from there. It is vital to look at the broader picture because they are not a representation of isolated cities’ totals.”

Water safety awareness - ensuring that our children are safe

“Communication about disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery activities is important to ensure that information is passed on to communities and those involved in early warning, response and recovery activities.”

The Frances Baard District Municipality in collaboration with Swim SA, Weather SA and the search and rescue unit of South African Police Service (SAPS), held a water safety programme at the Transka Resort in Warrenton, Warrenton on 28 November 2018. Members from the SANDF 93 Ammunition Depot who serve on the Disaster Management Advisory Forum were also present, as well as Mr Alfred Sehunelo from the Provincial Disaster Management Centre.

The need for the programme was identified by the fact that the Vaal river and Vaalharts water scheme, which distribute water to all surrounding areas and farms through a water network, passes all farms and schools in the area. There were a few incidents of drownings reported where children had fallen into the canal or tried to swim in the river or the canal.

Three local schools participated in the programme namely, Warrenton Public Primary, Warrenton Combined and Rolihlahla Intermediate School. These schools sent their learners to participate in the programme. The learners were given basic swimming lessons and told about the dangers of swimming without supervision. The programme implemented in cooperation with Swim SA and the diving unit of South African Police Service.

Transka Resort is expected to experience a high influx of holiday makers again in December and the resort is in the process of preparing its facilities. The SAPS Search and Rescue team will also be having a mobile unit stationed at the resort during the peak season.



Above: Warrant Officer Seeley from the SAPS Search and Rescue Unit spoke to the children about the do's and don'ts around swimming pools and rivers.



Above: Warrant Officer Seeley demonstrated to the children what to do when you see that someone is in trouble in the water. “The most dangerous thing to do is to get into the water with someone who is panicking. Rather stay on the bank and throw them a lifeline, anything you can use to make it possible for you to pull them to safety,” he said.



Left: One of the two life guards at the Transka Resort took some of the children into the pool and showed them the basics about swimming. Just the basics may save their lives and the lives of their friends.

Schools Business Plan Competition 2018

“Tourism development and promotion is highlighted as one of the main sectors within local economic development with the goal to develop and promote tourism in the District.”

The project was initiated with the aim to capacitate learners in the tourism field by staging a competition to provide learners with the opportunity to compile business plans on various tourism sectors. The program targeted Grade 10-12 learners in schools offering tourism as a subject.

During the 2017/18 financial year, business studies was included in the project. The aim was to allow learners in the field of business studies, to showcase their skills in the development of a business plan (Grade 10); the transformation of a business plan into an action plan (Grade 11) and to formulate business strategies for the macro environment (Grade 12). The competition currently includes entries in the fields of tourism and business studies and has grown from a total of 5 schools during the 2008/09 financial year to 10 schools in 2018/19. The competition is divided into 3 phases namely, preparatory workshops,

presentation sessions and lastly the award ceremony.

The prizes are awarded as follows:

- All schools participating in the competition automatically qualifies to receive an incentive grant to the value of R5,000 (five thousand rand) pending on the requirements met in terms of the entry criteria of the competition.
- The sector winners receives an additional amount to the value of R2,500 (two thousand five hundred rand)
- The overall winners receives an additional amount to the value of R5,000 (five thousand rand).

Frances Baard District Municipality in partnership with sponsors over the years also awarded equipment to participating schools' classrooms ranging from computers, printers, tourism related books, posters, world globes, atlases, internet modems, cupboards, data projects and screens.

2018 WINNERS PER SECTOR

Grade 10	Grade 10
Greening Project	Sport Tourism Project
Sector winner: William Pescod High School	Sector winner: Warrenvale High School
Grade 11	Grade 11
Tourism Route Project	Adventure Tourism Project
Sector winner: Warrenvale High School	Sector winner: Degania High School
Grade 11/12	Business Studies Sector
Eco-Tourism Sector	Sector winner: Northern Cape High School
Sector winner: Vuyolwethu High School (Grade 11)	
Sector winner: Degania High School (Grade 12)	

2018 OVERALL WINNERS

Grade 10
Overall Winner Tourism Category: William Pescod High School
Information Centre Sector: Sector Winner: William Pescod High School

Overall Winner Tourism Category (Grade 11): Vuyolwethu High School
Overall Winner Business Studies Sector: Northern Cape High School
Overall Winner Business Tourism Sector (Grade 12): Degania High School

NATIONAL HEADLINES

Be the Legacy

#Mandela100
#BeTheLegacy
https://www.gov.za/masisulu100

ALBERTINA SISULU
Centenary
2018

In 2018 South Africa will mark the centenary of the life of Albertina Sisulu, a fearless champion of democracy and human rights. The centenary celebrations will run for the entire year and will be marked by a series of commemorative events.

A Woman of Fortitude

#MaSisulu100
https://www.gov.za/masisulu100

Contributors to the newsletter content:

Desmond Makaleni, Lesego Ngwira, Joh-nè Jansen, Mary-Anne Snyders, Ziyanda Mfeya, Office of the Premier (NC), Inno Khunou (SASSA), Clifford Jones, Julia Albertus-Pucoe.

Editorial Note

We have reached the end of 2018, and what a year it has been!

We had our ups and downs and our struggles to bring you news stories that is worthy of a read. We hope that we have succeeded in doing so and that you will continue to make this newsletter part of your reading list.

We hope to continue in the new year and we resolve that we will try to bring in as much local content as possible, so that we cover the entire audience in the district.

We will work on improving our relations with our counterparts in the local municipalities so that we cover all projects and activities that will be rolled out in the district. Not only by us but also the sector departments that are working in our area of jurisdiction.

We invite you to tell us what you have enjoyed reading about and give us feedback on the stories we carry in this publication.



Until we meet again in 2019.
Have a Blessed Christmas
and Prosperous New Year!

Remember - rather be safe than sorry,
rather arrive a little later than not at all!

Gerline Roman
Editor



CONTACT DETAILS

Frances Baard District Municipality
51 Drakensberg Avenue, Carters Glen
Private Bag X6088
KIMBERLEY, 8300/1
Tel.: 053 - 838 0911
Fax: 053 - 861 1538
E-mail: gerline.roman@fbdm.co.za