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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Foreword by the
Executive Mayor

1

From the Municipal
Manager's Desk

2

In conversation with new
executive mayor

3

FBDM scoops up Govan
Mbeki housing award
again

4

Tourism awareness month

5

2016 SALGA Provincial
elective conference

6

Municipal Health - food
safety monitoring

8

Firefighter volunteer
training

9

2016 Tourism School's
Business Plan
Competition

10

The New Council

11

National headlines

12

Message from the Executive Mayor

It gives me profound pleasure to be contributing my first write-up for this first edition of the Re Bua Mmogo of the new council for 2016 - 2021.

I feel greatly honoured to be the executive mayor of this great district.

My gratitude goes to the previous council for the great work they have done and their commitment to serving the people of this district.

I look forward to working closely with the municipal manager, the executive management and all staff. As the new council we are committed to achieving great outcomes for our community and the district as a whole.

It is important for the community to have an insight and better understanding of its leaders, and that is why we will be placing more emphasis on public participation in this term.

As from November this year we have started going out into the district, per municipal area, to introduce to you the new council of the district municipality.

We are committed to finding innovative ways to improve our levels of engagement and provide opportunities for people to have a say. As a council we understand the importance of ensuring the community plays a meaningful role in decision-making and the implementation of service delivery related matters affecting them.

We want to continue the work of our predecessors by continuing to improve the lives of our communities in the Frances Baard District.

Our district has many things to be proud of - our rich diversity, geographic locations and heritage - but there are also real and significant challenges, such as high youth unemployment, which needs our attention.

The next five years promises to be very exciting, and I look forward to your support and encouragement.



**The Executive Mayor
Ms BV Ximba**



From the Municipal Manager's Desk

This edition comes out at a time that we have just come out of the local government elections. We had a smooth transition between the council with the term ended on 10 August 2016 and the new council and we are elated to receive our new councillors to Frances Baard District Municipality.

Administration prepared and presented the new Council with a handover report to appraise the council on the performance of the municipality, projects and programmes that are currently underway, financial position and other related matters.

In relation to the 2016/17 financial year external audit by the Auditor General's office, FBDM has prepared and submitted the financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2016 and the annual performance report for the period under review to the AG's office.

A team of auditors began its work in September 2016 and concluded in November 2016. We are proud to inform our district community that we managed to maintain our clean audit and we are doing everything to sustain it in other years to come.

I wish to thank the executive management team and all officials for the hard work and dedication in ensuring that we reach our targets and continued to strive for financial prudence as we execute our daily duties in pursuance of our goals as a municipality.

On November 22, 2016 we held our annual strategic planning session at Kalahari Lodge in Kimberley. We were joined by the Executive Mayor, the Speaker, Mayoral Committee Members and representatives from the local municipalities in the district. The strategic planning session focused on the planning period 2017/18 – 2021/2022, i.e. the five year term of the current Council. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who participated in the session. We will now be taking the integrated development plan (IDP) processes forward and ensure that the municipality has a product that is the voice of our district community.

Let me take this opportunity to wish all councillors and officials, our stakeholders and the entire community of Frances Baard district a Merry Christmas and prosperous 2017.

May we all be safe as we will be travelling to various destinations. May the Almighty God be with you and your families. May His sufficient grace keep all of you. Amen.



**Municipal Manager
Ms Mamikie Bogatsu**

*Season's
Greetings*

**Wishing you Peace & Joy this
holiday season and a New Year
filled with Love, Happiness,
Prosperity and Success.**

In conversation with the new executive mayor of the district municipality - Mme Buyiswa Ximba

Q As the 4th executive mayor of the Frances Baard District Municipality, what is it that we can expect from your term of office?

A That we improve our services from good to even better. We have a responsibility to ensure that the social, economic and material needs of our communities adheres more to quality as opposed to quantity.

We have to provide decent RDP houses, clean water, decent roads and better infrastructure. Coupled to that is the access to electricity for all communities in the Frances Baard District.

Q Do you think that local government has such an important role to play? In particular, do you think that district municipalities still has a role to play?

A Yes indeed, as local municipalities deal directly with service delivery. Our local municipalities have a responsibility to ensure our communities have access to clean water, sanitation, electricity, roads and also basic health care like clinics.

Local municipalities also deals with Integrated Development Plans (IDPs) which are reviewed annually. The district municipality has a role to play in local municipalities and is committed to working with citizens and groups within the community to find sustainable ways of meeting their social and economic needs to improve the quality of their lives.

As local government we are clearly one of the fundamental democratic spheres of government.

Q Being in this office will put a lot of strain on your personal and family life. How will you find a balance between these?

A I take it as a challenge in my personal and family life, because being a public figure, one should at all times keep your work as a priority.

As a mayor I must priorities and assist those who are in need of assistance. My family must understand that I took this baton to assist and develop the communities. If possible I will make time to spend a moment with my family and friends.

Q What is your top priority for the district as a whole?

A To ensure that local municipalities achieve a clean audit and not disclaimers



Executive Mayor, Cllr. Buyiswa Ximba in office

- To ensure accountability and curb fruitless, wasteful and irregular expenditure
- To build good relationships with all local municipalities and employees of the Frances Baard District Municipality
- To create more jobs with EPWP programmes

Q How has the time in office been for you so far, since your inauguration at the end of August 2016?

A So far I am enjoying my stay at the Frances Baard District Municipality. Relationships between the mayoral committee and senior managers are sound and intact. We are a solid unit and we hope our relationships will grow and stay like this for the next five years.

“Local government is the sphere of government closest to the people. Many basic services are delivered by local municipalities and local ward councillors are the politicians closest to communities.”

FBDM scoops the Govan Mbeki housing award again

The Frances Baard District Municipality won the award for best level 2 accredited municipality in the Northern Cape Province as well as the National award in the same category. This is the second time that the district municipality has won this award, the first being in 2014, where it went on to take the national award as well.

The Govan Mbeki Housing Awards is an annual event in the human settlements diary. The awards start at a provincial level and the respective winners in the various categories then compete at a national level. The awards are to honour those who have performed best in the human settlements sector during the past year.

Named after the ANC stalwart, the awards also aim to promote excellence, best practices and instil a healthy competition among all Departments of Human Settlements in provinces and municipalities.

They are also a way of encouraging and appreciating all the Human Settlements stakeholders including the business sector and other sectors who are making valuable contributions through resources to help the department realize the goal of providing decent housing, tenure of security and comfortable living to all our people. The awards are intended to honour the role players in the housing value chain, including developers, building contractors, the banking sector, community based organizations, the mining sector, building materials suppliers and professional associations that have committed to partner with government in building sustainable human settlements and making the millennium development goals achievable.

Provincial contenders contested the following categories:

- Subsidy builder of the year award;
- NGO/CBO of the year award;
- Disadvantaged builder of the year award;
- Woman builder of the year award;
- Contractor of the year building in a difficult terrain award;
- Municipality of the year award; and



The housing team of the FBDM with the Municipal Manager, Ms Mamikie Bogatsu (seated in middle, front) and the Director Infrastructure, Mr Peet van der Walt, standing third from left and the Housing Manager, Mr Saligh Suliman, standing far right.

- MEC's merit award which is the prerogative of the MEC responsible human settlements.

The key features in all categories were on the quality of houses, number of housing units completed, project duration, job opportunities created and training or skills transfer and optimisation of the subsidy amount through additional features on the houses.

The contractor of the year in a difficult terrain category had the following additional elements: distance from city centre, construction on rocky or complex land, lack of basic services, and physical conditions found in rural areas such as poor or narrow roads which affect the process and duration of construction. The contractors were awarded points on how they best overcame these conditions and still managed to build quality houses and complete the project on time.

The municipality of the year criteria also included: stimulation of the residential property, spatial restructuring and sustainable human settlements development, social housing programme, informal settlement upgrading, institutional reform and capacity building.

Tourism awareness month

“Changing the attitudes and behaviour of the local community towards tourism is a long-term process that requires intensive nurturing. “

Annually the Frances Baard District Municipality rolls out a tourism awareness campaign during the month of September. This year the campaign kicked off in August 2016 already with a photography workshop and competition in Phokwane municipal area.

Throughout the month of September the tourism unit rolled out events such as a fun run on 03 September, an outreach programme and treasure hunt on 10 September in Magareng municipal area and ending off with an African art, music and fashion exhibition on 01 October 2016.

The cultural day originally planned for 24 September in Sol Plaatje municipal area was rescheduled for 05 November 2016 as it clashed with a National Heritage Council event planned for the same day.

Objectives of the campaign

- To increase the influx of visitors within the region;
- To enhance local perceptions of the tourism sector and generate awareness among the general public and key influences of the importance of tourism;
- To encourage best practice, ethical behaviour towards tourists and promote a service oriented culture;
- To inform the local community about the economic and social benefits of tourism;
- To create awareness of the career opportunities available in tourism; and
- To motivate communities to conserve tourism/heritage sites.



Young man showing off his skills during the Sol Plaatje cultural day celebrations.

Expected outcome of the campaign

- Improve collective efforts and partnerships amongst the different industry stakeholders i.e. private enterprises, public institutions, local community and non-government organisations (NGOs); and
- Identify critical success factors that will enhance the knowledge and views of tourism in the Frances Baard Region.



SALGA Northern Cape awarded the district municipality with a certificate of excellence for its Youth Entrepreneur Development Program as well as the Tourism Schools Business Plan Competition at its provincial conference in October 2016.

The LED & Tourism Unit is seen here with the Municipal Manager, Ms Mamikie Bogatsu (seated, in middle, front).

2016 SALGA Provincial elective conference

“The South African Local Government Association (SALGA), is the voice and sole representative of local government. SALGA interfaces with parliament, the National Council of Provinces (NCOP), cabinet as well as provincial legislatures.”

SALGA Northern Cape held its provincial elective conference on 11 - 12 October 2016. This conference convenes every five years after the local government elections, to elect the new members of the provincial executive committee.

The role of SALGA is to represent, promote and protect the interests of local government whilst transforming local government to enable it to fulfil its developmental role. It also plays a role to raise the profile of local government and ensure the full participation of women in local government and to develop capacity within municipalities.

During the conference the outgoing chairperson, Mr Willie Johnson expressed that no sphere of government is an island and that local government cannot operate alone without the inputs of provincial and national spheres. “We need to forge better working relationships. As the three spheres we must come together and plan together, he said.”

He reflected on the achievements of local government in the Northern Cape, one of which was the gradual improvement in the audit outcomes of municipalities in the province. Over the last two years the audit record in the province improved from 18 municipalities with disclaimers in 2014 to only six (6) municipalities in 2016. Local government in the province also made strides in improving the quality of life as the quality of water and other basic services improved over the last five years.

The mandate of SALGA is to:

- Represent , promote and protect the interests of local government;
- Transform local government to enable it to fulfil its developmental role;
- Raise the profile of local government
- Ensure full participation of women in local government;
- Perform its role as an employer body; and
- Develop capacity within municipalities.



Cllr. Sophia Mosikatsi, the new provincial chairperson, addresses the conference on the vision for the next five years.

Mr Abe Bekeer from the National Executive Committee (NEC) of SALGA in his message from the NEC said that the major service delivery upheavals tarnished the image of local government and endangered the lives of both councillors and the community. He said that these matters can only be handled properly through regular communication in order to restore the image of local government. “Recent surveys shows that the community do not trust their public representatives. We must therefore work together to deliver services seamlessly. We must improve and strengthen the ward committee system to ensure the free flow of information to citizens, he said”.

In his keynote address the MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (COGHSTA), Mr Alvin Botes, said that the tolerance of mediocrity is partly reinforced by a relative lack of consequences for incompetence or poor performance. He referred to the Auditor-General’s latest municipal audit report which highlighted this as a worrying trend. “Effective leadership is a critical ingredient in achieving organisational success, he said”.

The newly elected SALGA Northern Cape Provincial Executive Committee are as follows:

Chairperson: Cllr. Sophia Mosikatsi

Deputy Chairpersons:

- Cllr. Sipho S'thonga
- Cllr. Mosela Mathe
- Cllr. Lindie Bruintjies-Groenewald

Additional members:

- Cllr. Dimakatso Kolo
- Cllr. Lorenzo Faber
- Cllr. Brenda Mbamba
- Cllr. Paulus Mgcera
- Cllr. Lulamile Nkumbi
- Cllr. Dineo Moyo

Provincial Women's Commission Chairperson: Cllr. Gillian Peters

NCOP Delegates:

- Cllr. Victor Sakho
- Cllr. Nonyameko Shushu
- Cllr. Willie Links

Provincial Legislature Delegates:

- Cllr. Hilda Kgobodithata
- Cllr. Gloria Monaki
- Cllr. Sabina Masekati

NEC Members:

- Cllr. Bongile Mlalen
- Cllr. Bongile Herman

"What we have delivered over the last five years was because of the collective leadership that we had."

- Cllr Willie Johnson, outgoing chairperson of SALGA



MEC for COGHSTA, Mr Alvin Botes addressing the conference during the keynote speech.



Kgosi Toto, from the Provincial House of Traditional Leaders, delivered a message of support.



Cllr Mosikatsi takes the official oath of office assisted by Justice Olivier.

Municipal Health - food safety monitoring

“Frances Baard District Municipality (FBDM) is responsible for the rendering of municipal health services (including food safety monitoring) in the district.”

During the recent visits by the FBDM Environmental Health Practitioner (EHP) to tuckshops in Delportshoop, it was established that most of the premises are operated illegally, i.e. without a certificate of acceptability (CoA) or the premises is not zoned for business purposes. Most of the owners are foreigners who do not understand the language or requirements which further complicated the situation.

In order to address the above situation, the EHP in cooperation with the local Community Policing Forum (CPF) and Community Development Worker (CDW) arranged a workshop with the local tuckshop owners to explain to them the procedures that needs to be followed to have the legal operation of their business.

“Environmental Health Practitioners from FBDM may at all reasonable times enter any premises where foodstuff is kept or manufactured to inspect or take a sample thereof to determine whether it is fit for human consumption or whether the premises comply with the requirements of the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972, as amended.”

On 12 September 2016 the EHP, the chairperson of the Police Forum and CDW had the information session with approximately 40 tuckshop owners.

The owners were informed on the procedures which they must follow to operate a food premises legally, which include the following:

- The owner of the premises must contact the EHP to obtain the requirements for a food premises;
- He/she must apply through the local municipality for the rezoning of the premises for business purposes;
- Rezoning application must be advertised;
- The local municipality must approve the rezoning application;
- Building plans of the tuck shop must be submitted to and be approved by the local municipality; and



Tuckshop owners are taken through the procedures on how to ensure that their premises comply with food safety requirements.



Tuckshop owner signs his inspection report after his shop was assessed by the EHP.

- An application for a certificate of acceptability (CoA) must be completed and submitted to EHP.

Once these requirements are complied with:

- The EHP will evaluate the application and the building;
- The EHP shall issue a CoA if the building or structure comply with the requirements;
- A copy of the CoA must be displayed in the building where it is visible for the public; and
- The EHP will conduct regular evaluations at the building to determine whether the business is operated in accordance with the requirements. Health education will also be given to the owners and the food handlers.

Firefighter volunteer training

“Volunteer firefighters assist professional firefighters to put out fires. They undergo extensive training and are sometimes the only people standing between us and a total disaster.”

The district municipality annually conduct training for volunteers to strengthen capacity at local municipalities to combat veld fires.

The volunteers are trained to strengthen the fire teams which were established within Fire Protection Associations in Dikgatlong, Magareng and Phokwane local municipalities to assist with the fighting of veld fires.

Fifty-eight (58) volunteers were trained in the last financial year, which included mostly youth (women and men). Besides the basic structural fire and veld firefighting training, the trainer also touched on first aid basics.

Facts about veld fires

- About 90% of veld fires are started by human beings, the other 10% are started by natural occurrences such as lightning;
- Three components are necessary to start a veld fire: oxygen, fuel and heat;
- At least 16% oxygen must be in the air for a fire to start (our atmosphere contains 21%);
- Fuel is any living or dead material that will burn. Fuels such as dead plants, dry leaves, pine needles and grass burn more readily than moist green plants because the dead material contains less moisture; and
- Heat is usually supplied by a lightning strike to a tree or grass. People normally start veld fires through carelessly (not properly disposing of cigarette butts) or malicious (intentionally starting a fire) behaviour.

How do I know that a veld fire might occur?

- If It is a dry season;
- You experience very hot conditions;
- There are a lot of potential fuel (e.g. dry leaves, wood, dead plants and grass);
- You can clearly see long dry grass and plants; and
- There are moderate to strong winds present.

- National Disaster Management Centre

This year's training was conducted in Koopmansfontein in the Dikgatlong municipal area, as this area is prone to veldfires and the occasionally structural fires. Community members are trained on how to react in case of a fire and how to keep their loved ones and belongings safe. The volunteers received SETA accredited certificates and a stipend of seventy-five rands (R75) a day.



Above: Volunteers assisted with putting out a veld fire at Koopmansfontein last year.



Above and below: Volunteers are being shown how to use a fire extinguisher.



2016 Tourism Schools' Business Plan Competition

“The competition was initiated in 2008/2009 as a pilot project to develop and promote tourism in the Frances Baard District. In this period tourism as a subject was introduced at schools in the district.”

The district municipality hosted its 8th annual tourism schools business plan competition, on 04 November 2016 where Elizabeth Conradie School and Kimberley Girls High were crowned as the overall winners of the competition for grades 10 and 11 respectively. This year 13 schools participated in the competition.

The focus areas of the project are to:

- Afford all 23 schools in Frances Baard District offering tourism as a subject to participate in the competition;
- Promote tourism development;
- Sensitise learners with regard to tourism promotion;
- Promote entrepreneurship and product owner development; and
- Encourage learners to think creatively in terms of information, communication and communication technology.



Overall winner (Grade 10):
Elizabeth Conradie School



Overall winner (Grade 11):
Kimberley Girls High School

WINNERS PER SECTOR

Grade 10		
Greening Project	Sport Tourism	Establishment Information Centre
Sector winner: Elizabeth Conradie School	Sector winner: Hoërskool Adamantia	Sector winner: St. Cyprians Grammar School
1st runner-up: Kimberley Girls High School	1st runner-up: Hoërskool Diamantveld	1st runner-up: Northern Cape High School
2nd runner-up: Hoërskool Hartswater	2nd runner-up: Boresetse High School	2nd runner-up: Hoërskool Hartswater
Grade 11		
Tourism Route	Adventure Tourism	Eco-Tourism
Sector winner: Elizabeth Conradie School	Sector winner: Kimberley Girls High School	Sector winner: Hoërskool Vaalrivier
1st runner-up: Kimberley Girls High School	1st runner-up: Hoërskool Hartswater	
2nd runner-up: Hoërskool Vaalrivier	2nd runner-up: Northern Cape High School	

Frances Baard District Municipality

THE NEW COUNCIL



B V Ximba
EXECUTIVE MAYOR



M B Silingile
SPEAKER
MPAC Committee

MAYORAL COMMITTEE



K C Mothibi
Finance Committee



M E Motsamai
Social Development
Committee



E M Mathe
Policy & Institutional
Development
Committee



M E Mokgathlanyane
Infrastructure Development
Committee



L N Shushu
Planning &
Development
Committee

COUNCILLORS



P D Bishop
MPAC Committee (Chairperson)
Policy & Institutional
Development Committee



M Kaars
Finance / MPAC
Committee



B Springbok
Finance Committee



A M Siwisa
Finance / Planning &
Development / MPAC Committee



A O Moremong
Finance Committee



P J F Louw
Planning & Development
Committee



J S Musie
Planning & Development
Committee



A K Zalisa
Planning & Development /
MPAC Committee



M J Beyllefild
Infrastructure Development
Committee



L F Duba
Infrastructure / Policy &
Institutional Development
Committee



D M Macinga
Infrastructure Development
Committee



O B Platje
Infrastructure Development
Committee



M P Thabane
Social Development
Committee



D Benjamin
Social Development
Committee



H Morometsi
Social Development
Committee



T H Mpanza
Social Development
Committee



V E Ndlela
Policy & Institutional Development
/ MPAC Committee



S H Griqua
Policy & Institutional Development
/ MPAC Committee



M A Mahuthe
Policy & Institutional Development
/ MPAC Committee



S N Kika
Finance & MPAC
Committee

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FRANCES BAARD
DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



NATIONAL HEADLINES

Road safety during the festive season

The Minister of Transport, Ms Dipuo Peters launched the 2016 festive season road safety campaign on 03 December 2016. The initiative is aimed at increasing awareness around the dangers of texting and driving, driver fatigue and speeding.

Road safety tips

1. Obey the rules of the road and carry your driver's license with you.
2. Plan the route to your holiday destination and allow yourself enough time to reach the destination
3. Make sure that your vehicle is in a roadworthy condition before departure. All lights and indicators, windscreens, windscreen wipers, brakes, steering, shock absorbers, exhaust system and tyres should be carefully examined for faults.
4. Do not overload.
5. Try to avoid driving after dark if possible.
6. Have a good rest before you embark on your journey
7. Take safety breaks every 2 hours or 200km. Rest, have an energy drink and continue once well rested.
8. Do not drink and drive
9. Try to recognise potentially dangerous drivers on and pedestrians alongside the road and keep well clear of them
10. Be visible – drive with your lights on
11. Headlights should be dipped well before an approaching vehicle is within the range of the main beam.
12. Always wear your seat belt and see that everyone in the car is wearing theirs.
13. Drive defensively
14. Stay within the speed limit at all times
15. Only overtake when it is absolutely safe to do so
16. Maintain at least a 2-second following distance - this distance should be increased at night, in foggy or rainy conditions and when the road is wet.
17. Expect others to not be as obedient to the law as yourself
18. Avoid distractions on the road such as texting, conversations on cellular phones etc
19. Be courteous towards fellow road users - keep your temper and resist the temptation to retaliate

Know your emergency numbers - When you need assistance, kindly call the following numbers

Police	10111
Fire	10177
Ambulance	10177
Arrive Alive Call Centre	0861 400 800
Emer-G-Med	0861 007 911
Accident & Breakdown Towing	0860 911 326
Netcare 911	082 911
ER24	084 124

Contributors to the newsletter content:

Joh-nè Jansen, Mary-Anne Snyders, Kenneth Lucas, Kaylene Visagie, Saligh Suliman

Editorial Note

In this issue we focussed on the new incoming mayor of the district municipality and the Provincial conference of SALGA.

I want to take this opportunity to welcome our new leadership into office both at the district municipality and SALGA.

In this publication we included a poster with the portfolio for each councillor on the district council, as an introduction to the community.



The end of the calendar year has arrived and its time to take stock of all our achievements for 2016, both professional and personal.

I hope you take this time of rest to reflect back on the year and come out on the other side with only the positives. Use the negatives as building blocks to do better next year.

With well wishes for the festive season and a prosperous new year. We look forward to seeing you in 2017 and hope to bring you many more stories from across the Frances Baard District.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to all!



We always welcome inputs on the articles we feature in this publication and we want to urge you to contact us should you have any questions. We hope you enjoyed the read and we look forward to hearing from you.

Gerline Roman
Editor



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