

Look us up on:



www.francesbaard.gov.za

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Foreword by the Executive Mayor

1

From the Municipal Manager's Desk

2

N12 Tourism Promotion

3

Operation clean-up to improve tourism

4

Relief for housing backlog in Delportshoop

5

World Environmental Health Day 2019

6

Graduation ceremony: SMME development programme

8

Business plan competition 2019

9

NHI in summary

10

Special feature: Launch of tourism e-newsletter

11

National headlines

12

Message from the Executive Mayor

The ruling party in the Northern Cape convened a two-day Local Government Summit in De Aar in October 2019, under the theme “*Building modern and growing local economies through sustainable, responsive and people centred municipalities*”.

The summit aimed to review local government performance in the Northern Cape and resolved that there is a need for Provincial Treasury to be involved in the municipal budget process and for them to guide the budgeting process.

In doing so, the phenomenon of unfunded budgets will be curtailed as well as poor collection of revenue by municipalities. The summit also surmised that the Department of COGHSTA should assist municipalities in developing and implementing audit action plans.

Fast-tracking the work of the inter-ministerial task team into ESKOM debt and that municipalities develop debt redemption plans featured high on the agenda and it was concluded that debt recovery plans should

be implemented and subsequently supplemented.

Local Economic development was top on the agenda of the summit and the ruling party considered methodologies which can create better opportunities to improve our local economies for increased sustainable and inclusive growth. The summit resolved that there is a need for our councillors to go back to basics and regularly consult with communities in their specific wards.

As we enter the festive season, I wish to caution drivers to stick to the rules of the road and to travel safely to their various destinations.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to the staff and communities of Frances Baard!



**The Executive Mayor
Mr P Marekwa**



The FBDM received the award for “Best Overall improved District Municipality”, at the Gala event of the World Environmental Health Day, held at Platfontein Farm on 26 September 2019. **Read more on PAGE 6.**

From the Municipal Manager's Desk

As we approach the festive season, it is a good time to take stock and reflect on the year that is coming to an end.

It has not been the easiest time for us in local government, with the Auditor-General flagging the poor performance of South Africa's municipalities. Here in our district we have also not managed to avoid the impact of this report.

It has become more and more crucial for us to manage our finances well and to ensure accountability is strengthened. As a district municipality we have put more stringent measures in place through the implementation of the Municipal Cost Containment Regulations. This regulation was issued by National Treasury to ensure that municipalities do not waste public resources on non-service delivery items.

The municipality has adopted its own cost containment policy in the current financial year and has now further strengthened policies in support of cost containment.

Cost curtailment is now a rooted principle and is no longer seen as a short-term intervention, but rather part of the organisational culture.

We are in the process of rounding off the activities we have set for quarter two, and we are slowly starting to look forward to spending the holidays.

I want to give our communities the assurance that as a municipality we will remain vigilant in ensuring that we continue to strengthen the hands of our local municipalities, as we strive to deliver quality services.

I want to wish each and every one of you a peaceful festive season, filled with love, peace and laughter. May we all return in the new year, well rested and eager to take on the challenges that will inevitably confront us.

*Till we meet again in 2020,
take care and God Bless
you and keep you!*

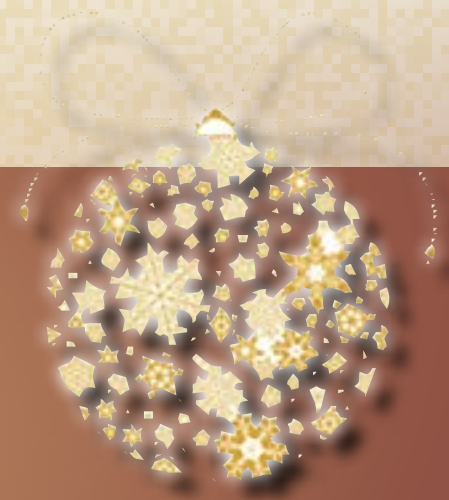


**Municipal Manager
Ms Mamikie Bogatsu**

Merry Christmas!

*We wish you a wonderful Christmas
and a Prosperous 2020*

Our sincere thanks to your goodwill and loyalty throughout the year. Cheers to your new endeavours and may it increase in joy and prosperity.



N12 tourism promotion over the December holidays

The district municipality in collaboration with the Northern Cape Tourism Authority (NCTA), the Sol Plaatje Municipality and Magareng Municipality will host the annual N12 Promotion campaign during December 2019.

Through the campaign the team hope to achieve the following:

- To increase domestic sales to the province by showcasing the many experiences of offer;
- To enhance awareness within the trade and to direct consumers so that the Northern Cape is chosen as the best local holiday destination;
- To increase visibility through the travel trade and use the marketing channels to reach a wide audience;
- To enhance destination visibility;
- To enhance youth tourism development; and
- To encourage local people to travel within the province and to experience their local tourism attractions

The teams will be stationed at Shell Ultra City and Caltex Garage in Kimberley and at the Pumla Garage in Warrenton from 08h00 - 16h30, from 12 to 13 December.

This will be for the distribution of marketing material including brochures, DVDs, maps and branded promotional material to create awareness of the N12 attractions as well as the activities on offer in the district of Frances Baard District.

Travellers are encouraged to complete a short survey, in an attempt to record the number of travellers, their reason for travelling and their interests; in order to improve the tourism services on offer in the district.

Lucky draw

Travellers will get an opportunity to participate in lucky draws and would stand a chance to win promotional items and other prizes on offer.



Above: Last year the officials from the district municipality and Sol Plaatje municipality set up information stalls at the Shell Ultra City and Caltex Garage. They focused on sharing information on tourist attractions in and around Kimberley to travellers using the N12 en-route to their holiday destinations and managed to speak to approximately 90 travellers. Most indicated that they were going to spend time in Kimberley and were not just passing through.

“The campaign was launched in 2013 to encourage summer holiday visitors to travel via the Northern Cape Province en-route to their travel destinations in an effort to inspire them to consider the Northern Cape Province as a future holiday destination.”

Operation clean-up to improve tourism in the district

“The cleaning campaign forms part of the annual tourism awareness programme and is aimed at encouraging clean environments; whether it is in parks, streets or the towns in general.”

Right and below: The teams cleaned around the Mataleng stadium (Barkly West) that was going to be used for the Cultural Exhibition and Heritage Awareness programme on 26 September 2019. Future cleaning projects will focus on areas that are in need of urgent cleaning in and around town.

The teams in Warrenton also focussed on cleaning and clearing of the entrances to Warrenton town along the N12.



In September 2019 the district municipality in collaboration with the Magareng and Dikgatlong local municipalities rolled out clean-up campaigns in the respective municipal areas.

The municipalities partnered with different stakeholders who included the Tourism Associations, NGO's, Parastatals and the Department of Environmental Affairs.

The objective of the campaigns was to enhance local perceptions of the tourism sector and generate awareness amongst the public of the importance of tourism; especially regarding the economic and social benefits of tourism.

In that way communities can be encouraged to change their perceptions and behaviour towards tourists and tourist

attractions. The district municipality provides support to the municipalities to help them to sustain the cleaning beyond the campaign. Stakeholders involved committed to convene on Fridays to carry on with the cleaning and the upgrade of the outlook of the town entrances.

Tools that were used on the campaign trail are:

- wheelbarrows;
- spades;
- gloves; and
- dust masks.

The district municipality introduced the annual clean-up campaign in 2013 and partnered with the local municipalities to roll out the awareness campaigns.

During this years' campaigns the municipalities identified the areas that needs attention because of high levels of refuse and littering, and have agreed to run future campaigns to clean these areas.



Relief for housing backlog in Delportshoop

Housing backlog still remains a challenge in Dikgatlong Municipality. There is an ever-increasing demand for affordable housing, which is one of the contributing factors in not eradicating backlogs.

To address the shortage, the municipality put in place an integrated housing development plan and one of the projects identified was the Proteahof 217 project in Delportshoop.

The plan is not only focussed on Proteahof but is meant to address housing challenges across the municipal area.

The municipality has identified a parcel of land for an integrated housing development.

The town planning, environmental impact assessment, geo-technical studies and servicing of the area was completed and construction started in the 2018/19 financial year.

Steering Committee

A steering committee consisting of the relevant role players such as the Department COGHSTA, the local municipality, FBDM and community representatives was established.

This is to ensure that the planning process was transparent and an ongoing public participation process.

The beneficiaries were identified in terms of the Housing Needs Register and application forms completed for the prospective beneficiaries. Priority was also given to the aged, women and disabled beneficiaries.

Erven backlog survey

A survey was conducted by the Dikgatlong Municipality to determine the number of erven needed.

The issues addressed included:

- The number of informal structures in Delportshoop;
- Informal structures present in the backyards;



- A 10% over population (double families) in existing formal houses; and
- Retired employees who requested assistance as they have no alternative area to relocate to.

Challenges

The original business plan was for the construction of 217 houses. However, the project experienced some challenges as some of the erven were not fully serviced.

To date 146 houses are completed. According to the Human Settlements Chapter of the IDP of the Dikgatlong Municipality, which is based on the census 2011 data, the backlog in the ward is estimated at 659 households.

World Environmental Health Day 2019

“World Environmental Health Day (WEHD) is dedicated to the celebration and promotion of Environmental Health Services and to observe environmental health risk factors that communities are exposed to. This day is also meant to recognise the hard work and dedication of Environmental Health Professionals (EHPs) and authorities in the country, despite the challenges they experience in their daily duties.”

The Frances Baard District Municipality, in collaboration with the Department of Health hosted the celebration of the annual World Environmental Health Day. The event took place over 2 days from 26 - 27 September 2019 and this year marked the 8th World Environmental Health day celebration for South Africa.

In his keynote address, the Deputy Minister Dr Joe Phaahla said: “It is critically important that universal health coverage, strengthening of preventative health and health promotion efforts, early planning on epidemic preparedness and strengthening of infrastructure and HIV and AIDs and TB strategies and interventions, are put high on the health agenda.”

He further elaborated on the National Health Insurance (NHI) Bill that there is a need for robust discussion and debate in driving universal health coverage in the country. He mentioned that the introduction of the Bill brings South Africa a step closer to its goal of implementing the NHI, as through the Bill, government seeks to fulfil its constitutional obligation to provide quality universal health care for all as envisaged in section 27 of the Constitution and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Alfred Nzo Awards

The conference included the Alfred Nzo Health Excellence Awards, which focused on awarding deserving environmental health practitioners, municipalities and points of entry for their outstanding contributions, dedication and hard work in promoting and strengthening environmental health services in the country.

The awards are held in memory of the late Mr Alfred Baphethuxolo Nzo, a freedom fighter who dedicated his entire life to the struggle for freedom in South Africa and one of the pioneers of the environmental health profession. He was amongst the first public inspectors employed to render what is known as environmental health services today, in the neglected townships at that time.

The Frances Baard District Municipality received the Best Overall Improved Metropolitan and District Municipality Award, for showing overall significant improvement in the follow-up audit, amongst all municipalities (district and metropolitan).

This was based on comparison of the current audits of the 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 financial years' follow-up audits. The district municipality scored an improvement of 64% in 2019 from 27% in 2018.

Environmental health practices in the Frances Baard District

The role of EHPs is to promote and support sustainable municipal health and environmental planning and management. This is done through the implementation of the following functions:

- Monitoring of water quality and waste management;
- Health surveillance of food premises;
- Vector and environmental pollution control;
- Disposal of the dead;
- Chemical safety and monitoring of hazardous substance; and
- Noise control.

The district's environmental health services covers the following local municipalities:

- Magareng;
- Dikgatlong;
- Phokwane; and
- Sol Plaatje (FBDM entered into a service level agreement with Sol Plaatjie to render the service on their behalf).



Above: The Environmental Health team with the Director Administration and the Municipal Manager (seated left and middle), with the awards for the best improved district municipality.



Graduation Ceremony: SMME Development Programme



On 11 September 2019 the district municipality held a graduation ceremony for SMMEs that completed a business management course and practical entrepreneurship training implemented by the municipality. The training programme was pitched at NQF Level 5 & 6.

In her keynote, the Chairperson for Planning and Development Committee, Cllr Mamkie Ximba said, “We see small businesses and co-operatives as critical to creating an economy that benefits all. Our point of departure is that small businesses can be the backbone of any economy and the main driver of economic growth, poverty reduction and job creation. A healthy SMME sector can make a massive contribution to the economy by creating more employment opportunities and generating higher production volumes.”

She reiterated that the district municipality remained concerned that small businesses have an exceedingly high failure rate, and the majority of the casualties are black and women-owned businesses.

Speaking on behalf of the 16 students who graduated, Mr Obed Senoamere, expressed their gratitude towards the district municipality and the IALE Institute, who made the training possible. He issued a challenge to his fellow graduates to remain inquisitive and to know their strengths and weaknesses.

“Be involved in research and development in your areas of expertise, not forgetting the impact of change in the society at large. Update your professional knowledge by continuing professional development, through reading journals, attending workshops and conferences”, he concluded.

“According to statistics small businesses have only 37% chance of surviving four years and only a 9% chance of surviving ten years. 70% to 80% of small businesses fail in their first year, and only about half of those who survive remain in business for the next five years.”



Mr Obed Senoamere, addressing the gathering during the graduation ceremony, where himself and 15 other graduates received their certificates for completing the business management and practical entrepreneurship training.

Business plan competition 2019

“The project was initiated with the focus to capacitate learners in Grades 10-12 in the tourism field by staging a competition, whereby learners are afforded the opportunity to compile business plans on various tourism sectors. Since its inception, the project has raised awareness and impacted positively towards the development of tourism in schools located within the district.”

The objective of the competition is to afford all 14 schools in the district offering tourism as a subject and 9 identified schools offering business studies to participate in the competition.

This year a total of eight (8) schools participated in the competition. The competition is divided into 3 phases which is the preparatory workshops, presentation sessions and 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 of R2,500 (two thousand five hundred rand)
- The overall winners receives an additional amount 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.

2019 WINNERS PER SECTOR

Grade 10	Grade 10
Greening Sector	Sport Tourism
Sector Winner: Boresetse High School	Sector Winner: Boresetse High School
Grade 10	Grade 11
Information Centre	Tourism Route
Sector Winner: William Pescod High School	Sector Winner: William Pescod High School
Grade 11	Grade 11
Eco-Tourism	Adventure Tourism
Sector Winner: Tshireleco High School	Sector Winner: Degania High School
Business Tourism	Business Studies Category
Sector Winner: Tshireleco High School	Sector Winner: Northern Cape High School

2019 OVERALL WINNERS

Overall Winner Tourism Category: (Grade 10) Boresetse High School
Overall Winner Tourism Category: (Grade 11) Degania High School

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

National Health Insurance (NHI) in summary

“The National Health Insurance (NHI) is a financing system that will make sure that all citizens of South Africa (and legal long-term residents) are provided with essential healthcare, regardless of their employment status and ability to make a direct monetary contribution to the NHI Fund.”

Why does South Africa need NHI?

Many South Africans have received health services, but not all have benefitted equally. NHI will ensure that South Africans have equal access to health services.

Where will the NHI get money to pay for health services?

The money will come from:

- general tax money;
- money that is used to be paid to medical scheme members when they submit their tax returns;
- a monthly deduction from employees and employers (almost like the UIF);
- an extra fee on personal income tax.

“In all probability, by 2022 all South Africans will become members of the NHI fund. This could mean massive changes to the way you will be able to access doctors, and specialists in particular”

Who will be covered by the NHI?

The Fund will buy healthcare for:

- South African citizens;
- permanent residents;
- refugees;
- prisoners;
- all children will get basic healthcare; and
- tourists must have travel insurance for healthcare.

Asylum seekers or illegal foreigners can get:

- emergency medical services
- healthcare for diseases that can cause an outbreak (e.g. TB)

How will I benefit from the NHI?

When you register with the NHI:

- you will get free healthcare;
- you will never have to pay cash for services or medicines;
- you can go to a government or private clinic or doctor in your area that is part of the NHI;

- your payment to the NHI Fund will be lower than what you pay for medical aid; and
- if you or a family member are very ill or gets into an accident you will not have to worry about how you will pay for the doctors or hospital.

How do I become part of the NHI?

You will have to register yourself and your children for NHI at a clinic or doctor in your area. Children born after NHI has started will automatically be registered for NHI at the clinic or hospital. Children between 12 and 18 years can ask the clinic or doctor to be registered if their parents did not do so. When you register for NHI you will be asked for fingerprints, photographs and proof of address as well as:

- your ID, or
- your original birth certificate, or
- a refugee ID.

“Ultimately, the entire South African healthcare system will be overhauled with the introduction of two new proposed bills – the National Health Insurance (NHI) Bill and the Medical Schemes Amendment Bill.”

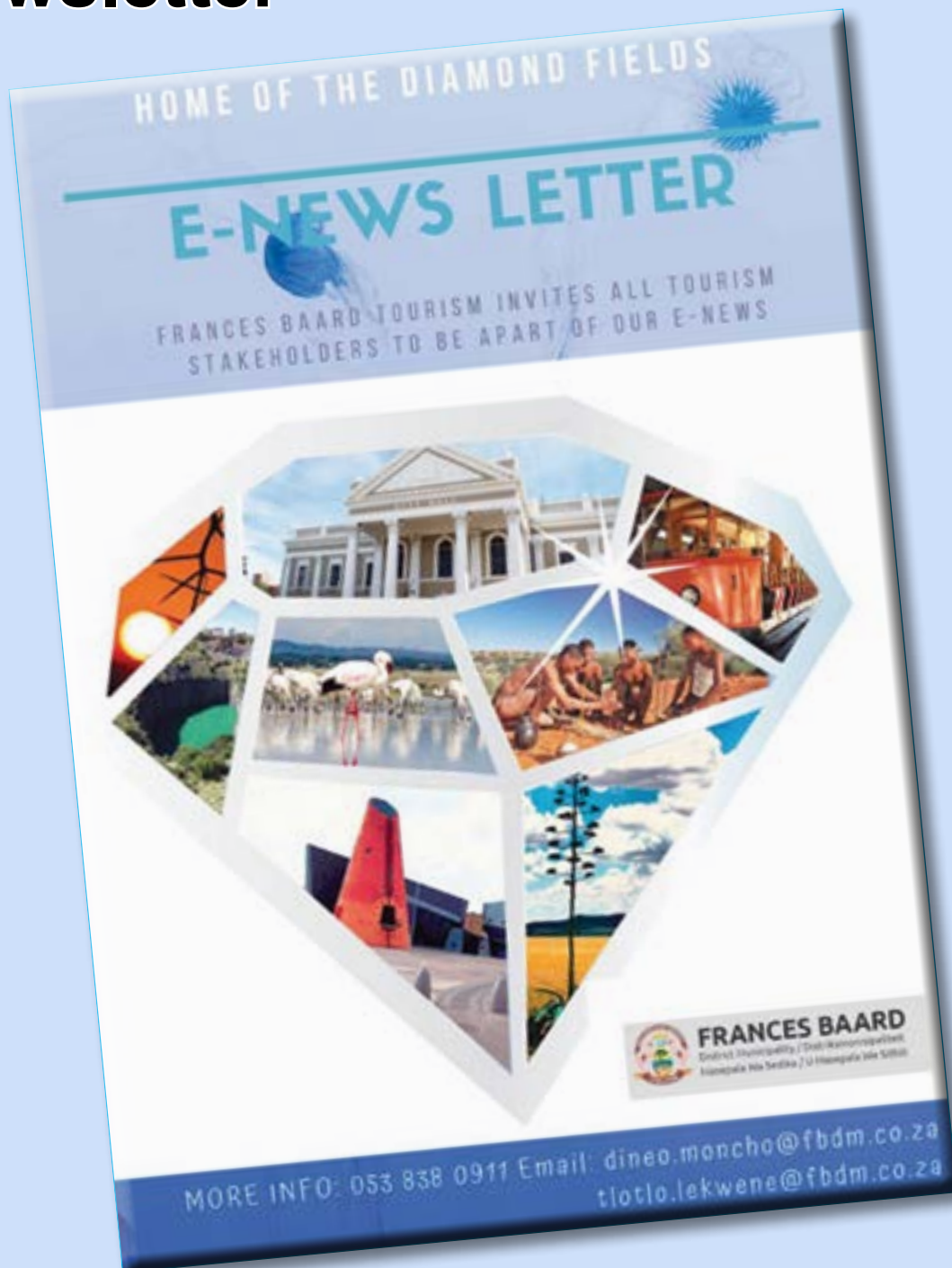
What kind of services will the NHI pay for?

Everyone that uses the NHI can get:

- healthcare at public clinics or private doctors;
- services to prevent diseases;
- the services of medical specialists if they were referred by a doctor or clinic;
- hospital care in emergency situations;
- hospital care if referred by a health professional; and
- tests such as X-rays, scans and laboratory tests.

.../continued on back page

Special feature: Launch of tourism e-newsletter



Tourism is an important economic pillar in the economic development of the Frances Baard Region. Thus, activities that promote and enhance tourism are a prerequisite in growing the tourism sector. The Frances Baard District Municipality launched its very first issue of the Tourism Electronic Newsletter (October – December 2019). Product owners are invited to provide us with information on their products/services, which can assist us to advertise or create awareness about the product or service you have on offer.

Kindly use the following bullets as a guideline for the information that we require:

- New developments,
- Specials/ discounts on offer
- Packages
- Activities and events taking place in the Frances Baard District

Interested participants must contact the following officials: Joh-nè Jansen at joh-ne.jansen@fbdm.co.za or Dineo Moncho at dineo.moncho@fbdm.co.za or call us on 053 838 0911.

NATIONAL HEADLINES

continued from pg. 10.../

NHI in summary....

What services will the NHI not pay for?

The NHI will not pay for a service if the nurse, doctor, dentist or specialist shows that:

- the service is not medically necessary
- the service is not cost-effective
- the healthcare product (e.g. medicine, wheelchair, etc.) is not included in the NHI list of products.

A person or user must pay cash or through a medical aid scheme or other medical insurance if they:

- do not qualify to be part of the NHI Fund
- fail to comply with referral pathways (see *What are referral pathways below*)
- want services that are not medically necessary
- want products that are not part of the NHI list.

What are referral pathways?

When you use the NHI, you have to always go to your clinic or doctor first (except for emergencies). If necessary, the doctor or nurse will refer you to a specialist or hospital. If you go to a hospital or specialist without a referral, the NHI will not pay for it.

Will private doctors and hospitals still exist under NHI?

Yes. Doctors, specialists and other private healthcare providers can choose if they want to join the NHI. They can keep seeing patients who pay them privately.

There will be doctors and specialists who see a mixture of patients, some paid by the NHI and some who pay from their pockets or through medical aid.

Will I be able to go to the same clinic or doctor if I use the NHI?

When you join the NHI, you will have to register with a clinic or doctor in your area. If your clinic or doctor is part of the NHI, you will be able to keep seeing them.

What will happen between now and when the NHI starts?

Before it can become a law, the NHI Bill must be passed by Parliament.

Source: Department of Health

Contributors to the newsletter content:

Sipho Banga, Bonolo Moea, Freddy Netshivhodza, Joh-nè Jansen, Tlotlo Lekwene, Kenneth Lucas, Pako Dikgetsi, National Department of Health.

Editorial Note

The centre piece for this issue focussed on environmental health and the very important role played by environmental health practitioners.

We salute them for what they do and the sometimes dangerous situations that they have to deal with in order to perform their duties.

The impact of climate change was also brought into stark reality for me during the event, when I realised what damage has already been done to the earth. We only have this one earth and we as humans do not understand the amount of damage that we have already inflicted upon it.

We also focussed on the National Health Insurance (NHI) programme and how it will impact on us, especially the tax payers. I want to urge the members of the community to actively participate in the public hearings and to ensure that you fully understand how it will affect you. It is after all in the interest of you and your family, when it comes to your health care.



The festive season is upon us and we want to wish you a Blessed Festive Season and a prosperous New Year.

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

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