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Message from the Executive Mayor

It is the end of the year 2020, a year that has been the most difficult in recent history for us as a district, province and country. Indeed for the whole world it will be a year that will be remembered throughout history.

Let us be thankful for the strength provided to us to see it through and to be able to say we have prevailed, by the Grace of God.

As we enter into this festive season, let us be ever vigilant of the dangers of not only contracting the virus but also the dangers of gender-based violence and other acts of irresponsible behaviour.

Let us keep our families safe and act responsibly as we celebrate during the festive season. Remember, the threat of the coronavirus is still very much with us and will be for the foreseeable future, until a vaccine is found.

We all know that a second wave is very possible and we all have a responsibility to ensure that we guard against it. This we can do by avoiding mass gatherings and over indulgence in especially alcohol.

Our celebration of the festive season this year should be restrained and low key, as our lives may depend on it.

It is therefore the responsibility of each and everyone of us to think and act in the best interest of our family and friends.

I need to emphasise to our communities that it is extremely important that we continue to practice physical distancing, good hygiene and wear our masks.

Let us go and relax and unwind from the stress of this year and come back with renewed energy, renewed focus and a new sense of purpose in the new year.

May the Almighty be with you all.

#TogetherWeCan



**The Executive Mayor
Mr P Marekwa**



On 30 September 2020 the district municipality handed over machinery and equipment to the eight SMMEs who responded to all the requirements of the Machinery and Equipment Support Grant. **Read more on PAGE 7.**

From the Municipal Manager's Desk

We all acknowledge that the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted all aspects of our society and our ability as local government to provide services to our people. We got challenged to reprioritise all our planned service and, through co-ordination of services across spheres of government, ensure that our communities have access to water without fail.

Despite the challenges we encountered in the process, we are satisfied that our communities had access to water.

With the easing of the lockdown at various intervals during the first six months of our financial year, we had to ensure that we adapt to such changes and push ahead to provide, and assist our local municipalities, to provide services to our communities.

This edition comes at a time that we are preparing for our mid-term assessment and evaluation, a process which will allow us to improve and strengthen our efforts to provide quality services to our communities.

I wish to express my special gratitude to all essential workers who have been working around the clock to ensure that our public places are decontaminated and that our Covid-19 cases are well managed. My special dedication goes to Ms "Katjie" Visagie, our Disaster

Management Practitioner (Dikgatlong) who passed on. She will always be remembered as an activist essential worker who never got tired, even when there was reason for her to feel so. She loved her work in all seasons. She truly lived up to our motto of "Re direla setshaba".

May I wish all of you a blessed period of festivities. Please remember, Covid-19 is still with us. Continue to follow all safety measures and protocols, it is the right thing to do.

Wash your hands regularly with bacterial soap, wear your face mask regularly and correctly, keep social distancing and avoid unnecessary movement as possible as you can.

Merry Christmas. May the unfailing love of the Almighty God envelope you and keep you and your family.

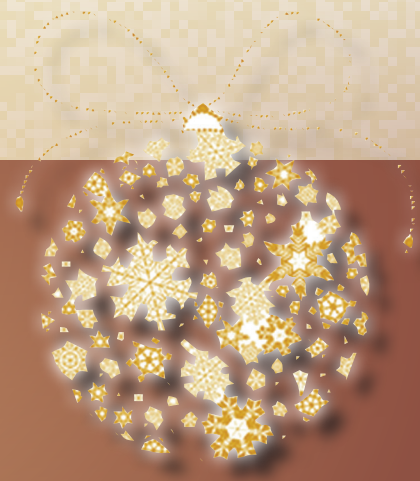


**Municipal Manager
Ms Mamikie Bogatsu**

Merry Christmas!

*We wish you a wonderful Christmas
and a Prosperous 2021*

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



Township and Rural Enterprise Programme

The Department of Small Business Development (DSBD) together with its agencies SEDA & SEFA embarked on a Provincial roadshow to create awareness & introduce the Township and Rural Enterprise Programme (TREP) interventions to the entrepreneurs. The intention of DSBD is to make SMME support services more accessible to local entrepreneurs in line with the vision of President Cyril Ramaphosa of growing township and rural economies.

According to the Branch Manager of SEDA in the Northern Cape, Ms Masego Job, the involvement and support of the district and local municipalities indicated the strength of inter-governmental collaboration, shared resources and values as well as the strengthening of support for SMMEs in the district.

The DDM's institutional arrangements include national departments assigning officials as district and provincial coordinators, in support of the Ministers and Deputy Ministers who have been deployed as champions to the 44 districts and 8 metros.

DSDB's Township and Rural Entrepreneurship Programme (TREP) interventions play a key role in supporting the implementation of the DDM.

The TREP is aimed at assisting small businesses that are run in the townships such as spaza shops, automotives, clothing and textile amongst others. Other areas also focussed on are hawkers and street traders, hair salons, personal care parlours, tshisanyama's and small and micro businesses.

The focus is on small or micro businesses who are trading on a license from the municipality or have registered their company. Roadshows have been conducted to assist with things like application forms to access funding.

With the widespread impact of Covid-19 on especially smaller business people, the TREP has been put in place as a form of a recovery programme to assist these businesses to get back on track and help bridge the shortfall that was caused by the pandemic.

“Our economic strategy going forward will require a new social compact among all roleplayers business, labour community and government to restructure the economy and achieve inclusive growth. We will forge a compact of radical economic transformation that ensures that advances the economic position of women, youth and persons with disabilities and that makes our cities, towns, villages and rural areas vibrant centres of economic activity

- President Cyril Ramaphosa

The assistance that is provided through the programme is for South African citizens only, meaning that the business must be run by a South African and 70% of the people employed by the business must be South African. The focus through the programme is on two areas the informal business and the formal business.

The informal business referred to here are those that work on a hand-to-mouth principle. These businesses will then be assisted with compliance issues such as PIPC, SARS and UIF registrations, so that they can become formal practices.

The following schemes are available for qualifying entrepreneurs:

- Spaza shop support programme;
- Clothing, leather & textiles support programme;
- Small Scale Bakeries and confectioners support

programme;

- Tshisanyama and cooked food support programme;
- Automotive aftermarkets support programme;
- Butcheries;
- Fruit & Vegetable vendors; and
- Personal care.

These enterprises will be assisted with compliance, business development services, access to markets, and structured finance:

- Spaza shops are a critical pillar for creating access to markets for commodities made by other small businesses.
- The purpose is to create a system where money can circulate longer in townships and villages.
- These programmes are designed to create development impact.

Continued on page 4...

/...from page 3

Two task teams consisting of the DSDB, SEDA and LED officers from the local municipalities and the district municipality held information sessions on 23 September 2020 in different venues in the district. During the sessions interested stakeholders was assisted with either completion of application forms or sharing of information.



Above: The information session in the Sol Plaatje municipality took place at the City Hall in Kimberley.



Above: The information session in the Phokwane municipality took place at the Business Support Centre.



Above: The information session in the Dikgatlong municipal area took place in Delportshoop.

Below: The session took place at the municipal offices in Barkly West.



Above: The information session in the Magareng municipality took place at the Community Hall in Warrenton.

“The overall impression is that there are many SMMEs in the Frances Baard District that possess great potential for growth and success and the levels of poverty especially in the rural communities can be significantly condensed with the continued support offered by all stakeholders involved in the Township and Rural Entrepreneurship Programme (TREP). Many of our entrepreneurs should be nurtured and given the required funding.”

- SEDA

Oversight visit - Infrastructure Development Committee

On 09 September 2020 the Infrastructure Development Committee conducted an oversight visit to three local municipalities.

The delegation was led by the Chairperson of the committee, Councillor Mokgatlhanyane and three other councillors from the Infrastructure Committee. They were also joined by the mayor of Dikgatlong for projects visited in that municipality. Accompanying them were officials from the respective Infrastructure Units.

The oversight visit included the following projects:

Municipal area	Project description
Dikgatlong	
Barkly West	Landfill site 1 x Sewer Pump Stations
Stillwater	Roads project
Windsorton	New Oxidation Ponds
Magareng	
Warrenton	Landfill Site N12 Sewer Pump Station
	Water Treatment Works
Phokwane	
Hartswater	Landfill Site Wastewater Treatment Works

Landfill Site in Barkly West

The committee was satisfied with the progress that has been made at the landfill site. Since the last oversight visit, the landfill site has been graded and cleaned and it is important that a fence be erected for security, access control and to keep the waste within the landfill site.



Above: The landfill site in Barkly West needs a fence.

Sewer Pump Station in Barkly West

The committee decided to check on the sewer pump stations that they visited previously. All work that needed to be done was on track, the pumps were installed and the contractor was in the process of completing the project.

Stillwater Roads Project

This project is 97% complete. Outstanding items includes the installation of culverts by the contractor, thereafter the snag list¹ can be finalised. The paving has been completed on all roads. The project experienced several hick-ups and was running behind schedule from its original completion date in September 2019. The contractor was granted continued extensions with penalties over a period of four months. Extenuating circumstances which added to the delays was the implementation of the National Lockdown in March 2020. The local municipality then extended the project to end of August 2020.



Above: The completed paved roads in Stillwater.

New Oxidation Ponds in Windsorton

Not much progress was made on the project. The local municipality is in discussion with COGHSTA regarding funds available on the project. The committee advised Dikgatlong to prioritise the project and not abandon it without reason.

Landfill Site in Warrenton

The landfill site in Warrenton was divided into three phases, which is the erection of a fence, the building of a guard house and clearing of the landfill site.

FBDM assisted the Magareng Local Municipality to complete the first phase during the 2019/2020 financial year. The committee highlighted that the need for security

¹ Snag list - the last items that need to be done before final completion and handover

is of importance to protect the site against vandalism. There were also concerns about the size of the landfill and there were indications that there will be a need for an extension in future.



Above: The landfill site in Warrenton with its completed fence.

N12 Sewer Pump Station

The sewer pump station on the N12 is a major concern to the local municipality and the community of Warrenton. The pumps are not working and there is a huge sewer spillage in the veld which poses health hazards to the public.

FBDM has assisted the local municipality to purchase new pumps for the pump station in the 2019/2020 financial year. The main issue is that the pump station does not have a sump and a screen to protect the pumps. The pumps cannot operate for a week without failing due to the foreign material that is dumped on the sewer line i.e. rocks, cloths, utensils and debris. The local municipality is currently busy with the supply chain processes for the installation of the screen at the pump station.

Water Treatment Works in Warrenton

The water treatment works is under construction and the project is currently at 20% completion. The civil works contractor was on site at the time of the visit and they were busy with steel fixing and casting of concrete.



Above: The landfill site in Barkly West needs a fence.

Landfill Site in Hartswater

There were concerns that there was no progress on the landfill site since the previous visit of the oversight committee.

Wastewater Treatment Works in Hartswater

The wastewater treatment works in Hartswater is undergoing an upgrade and it is set to be completed at the end of November 2020. There were concerns raised about the vandalism taking place around Phokwane's infrastructure.



Above: The committee inspect the upgrades at the wastewater treatment works.

Challenges identified

Local municipalities are struggling to spend allocations provided to them by the FBDM on both operation and maintenance (O&M) and capital allocations.

Vandalism is a serious matter and damage to infrastructure is quite extensive.

Way Forward

The committee made the following recommendations as a way forward:

- FBDM to assist Dikgatlong municipality in spending all the allocated funds for O&M.
- FBDM to assist Magareng local municipality with the sewer pump station repairs.
- FBDM to secure funding for the refurbishment of the landfill guard house in Warrenton.
- Magareng local municipality must ensure that there is security at the landfill site for illegal dumping.
- Magareng local municipality should ensure that the Water Treatment Works project becomes a success.
- Councillors to investigate ways of mitigating the issue of vandalism on new infrastructure within the district.

Machinery and Equipment Grant recipients receive equipment

The purpose of the machinery and equipment grant is to support small businesses with machinery and equipment that can improve their business productivity and efficiency. The grant is an initiative by the municipality to develop enterprises by improving their efficiency and productivity.



On 30 September 2020 the district municipality handed over machinery and equipment to the eight SMMEs who met all the requirements of the Machinery and Equipment Support Grant. The responsive SMMEs were as follows:

Company name	Equipment received	Municipal area
Paballo Office Suppliers	Four-in-one Printing machine and desktop computer.	Phokwane
Dhaloxolo Human Capital Development	Industrial fridge and stove	Magareng
Ronnie and Sons	A fruit-and-vegetable stall structure	Dikgatlong
Alien Tech	Embroidery machine with software and printing machine.	Dikgatlong
KKP Hair Salon	2 x Hooded air dryers and two hair dryer chairs.	Sol Plaatje
Ratosiya	1 x car lift	Sol Plaatje
Joxy Craft	4 x antennas with their fitments	Sol Plaatje
Brazars Auto Spares	1 x hydraulic lift	Sol Plaatje

The district municipality received more than 290 applications, of which 173 (59%) were disqualified. The reasons for disqualification were the following:

- CIPC registration was not provided and tax certificate was not original;
- Proof of address was not provided;
- Reference letter from local municipality was not attached;
- Proof of municipal account was not provided; and
- Business plans and quotations for materials were not provided.



A district perspective on veld fire season

Veldfires are a persistent problem in Frances Baard district. They frequently cause emergencies, and often grow to disastrous proportions. At the same time, veldfires are natural – they occur as part of the normal process of events in grassland, woodlands and fynbos, and even sometimes in natural forests. Veldfires are a problem because they pose a risk to life, property and the environment.

We continue to use fire in veld and forest, to manage grazing and habitats, and as a measure to help prevent uncontrolled fires. By nature, veldfires do not respect property or boundaries. Without preventive measures, veldfires will continue to burn for as long as the weather is favorable and there is vegetation to burn. Anyone owning land has the first responsibility to control fires on his or her own land.

The National Forest and Veldfires Act (Act 101 of 1998), put the responsibilities on all landowners to safeguard their properties; therefore, landowners are forced to establish Fire Prevention Association (FPA) within their area of jurisdiction. The Fire Protection Association must include all the inhabitants of farms as well as communities within the area of the FPA.



Left: The Disaster Management team of the FBDM assisted with the veld fire that broke out in the Magareng municipal area on 18 October 2020. The fire started in the Spitskop Dam area and spread rapidly because of the strong wind.

High risk areas for veldfires in the FBDM area are:

Dikgatlong Municipal area

- Koopmansfontein; and
- Windsorton.

Magareng Municipal area:

- Bull Hill;
- Nazareth Farm; and
- Majeng.

Phokwane Municipal area

- Farms surrounding Jan Kempdorp; and
- Farms surrounding Hartswater.

Fire protection associations has been established in the above-mentioned areas.

The recent veldfires which occurred in the Magareng, Dikgatlong and Phokwane municipal area damaged 100,000 hectares of land and grazing. It was not easy to extinguish the veldfires due to the high speed of winds and spread up to the Free State province (Boshof). Damages were also caused to Eskom powerlines and livestock of farmers.

The veldfires were extinguished with the assistance of the following stakeholders:

- Working on Fire (WoF) who assisted with 4 fixed wing aircraft (one spotter aircraft and 3 aerial fire fighting aircrafts) and ground crews.
- Water for the aircrafts was supplied by the Kimberley Airport;
- SANDF which supported with water tankers to support the aircrafts with water;
- The Fire Protection Associations; and
- Farmers and emerging farmers from the surrounding areas.

The fire danger index (see graphic below) which is issued by the South African Weather Services factors in all the typical conditions, which are as follows:

- Wind conditions;
- Humidity; and
- The temperature for the specific period.

This information is distributed amongst Fire Protection Associations or can be accessed at the following website: <https://www.weathersa.co.za/home/fireindex>.

THE 5 CATEGORIES OF THE FIRE DANGER RATING TABLE:	
BLUE (Insignificant)	When the danger rating is insignificant (blue), the fire danger is so low that no precaution is needed.
GREEN (Low)	When the rating is low (green), fires including prescribed burns may be allowed in the open air on the condition that persons making fires take reasonable precautions against fires spreading.
YELLOW (Moderate)	When the rating is moderate (yellow), the fire danger is such that no fires may be allowed in the open air except those that are authorised by the Chief Fire Officer of the local fire service and those in designated fireplaces; authorised fires may include prescribed burns.
ORANGE (High)	When the rating is high (orange), the fire danger is such that no fires may be allowed under any circumstances in the open air.
RED (Extreme)	When the rating is extreme (red), the fire danger is such that no fires may be allowed under any circumstances in the open air, and special emergency fire preparedness measures must be invoked.

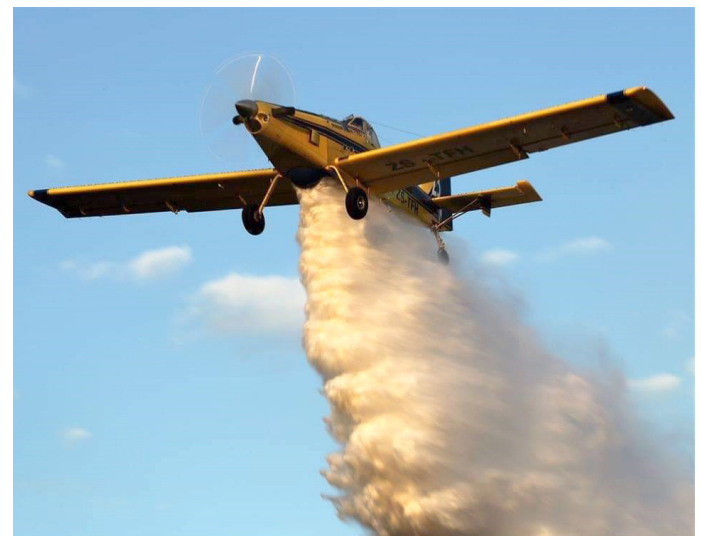
Fire Danger Index

Fires can be prevented:

- Through regular inspections done by the Fire Prevention Officer appointed by the FPA;
- Through the making of firebreaks on boundaries of the farms by debushing; and
- Through implementation of the daily Fire Danger Index.



Above: Working on-fire teams at work.



Above: Aerial support used to extinguish veldfires, provided by WoF.



District Small Business Week 2020

“The Frances Baard District Municipality (FBDM) and its local municipalities hosted its annual Small Business Week from 16 - 20 November 2020.”

The entrepreneurship week serves as a platform to reflect on the state of entrepreneurship in the district and to encourage entrepreneurship, especially among our young people.

The district municipality has identified the need to provide opportunities for small businesses to access available opportunities, hence the creation of the Small Business Week to coincide with the Global Entrepreneurship Week.

This programme has grown to be one of the world’s largest celebration of entrepreneurs, innovators and job creators. Over 150 countries partake in this Global Entrepreneur Week across the world.

This year, the GEW focussed on the creation of value chains through networking opportunities for small businesses. This provided an opportunity for individual businesses to benefit from a value chain that offers more and creates more competition for formal businesses.

Focus was also on the creation of high growth entrepreneurs through the stimulation of ideas and how to move from idea to a functional business.

During the opening Gala event on 16 November 2020 the chairperson of the infrastructure committee, Cllr Mokgatlhanyane had this to say, “In a time where job opportunities are not readily available, especially for our youth and young professionals, it stands to reason that we must look at other alternatives to ensure that people become self-reliant. Stimulating young minds to become innovators and entrepreneurs will go a long way in boosting our local economy.”

“If we want our economy to grow, we need more people to get actively involved as employers and not as employees. This will go a long way in assisting government to tackle the triple challenges of employment, poverty and inequality, a challenge which is proving to be the biggest test for a democratic and free South Africa.”

He further emphasised that the intention of the district municipality is to grow the Frances Baard Entrepreneur Week as a brand and position it as the number one LED Expo in the Northern Cape.

Observations by participants

A participant at the City Hall in Kimberley expressed that plans and ideas are not implementable if one does not have access to land to explore his/her ideas. The Executive Mayor of Sol Plaatje municipality encouraged entrepreneurs to approach the municipality to discuss the matter for assistance.

Other participants at Dikgatlong, Magareng and Phokwane welcomed the sharing of information and opportunities to network with those who have managed to establish their business and with funding agencies.

Continued on page 11.../



From left: MMC, Cllr Mokgathanyane giving the opening address at the first session of the Small Business Week at the City Hall in Kimberley on 17 November 2020. Far right: Mr Chris Mpisi addressing the session on re-modelling of business during Covid-19 and beyond.



Above: A facilitator leads the discussions during the session in Barkly West on 18 November 2020.



Above: A facilitator leads the discussions during the session in Phokwane local municipality on 19 November 2020.



Above: A facilitator leads the discussions during the session in Magareng local municipality on 20 November 2020.

NATIONAL HEADLINES

4 PRECAUTIONS TO FOLLOW TO AVOID BEING INFECTED

- 

1 WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands with soap thoroughly. Wash the back of your hands, between the fingers and under the nails. Always wash your hands with soap before you eat and after being out in public.


- 

2 GOOD PERSONAL HYGIENE

Cover your mouth with a tissue paper when coughing or sneezing. Avoid touching your face with dirty hands at all times. If you have to, be sure to wash your hands with soap thoroughly first.
- 

3 DO NOT SHARE FOOD AND UTENSILS

Bacteria, viruses and infection can be transmitted onto knives, forks, spoons and straws. Only use clean utensils and do not share drinks. Always clean your hands before eating.
- 

4 SEE A DOCTOR IF YOU ARE UNWELL

Typical symptoms include cough, runny nose, fever and shortness of breath. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, seek medical attention promptly. Call the clinic or doctor ahead of your visit and inform them of your symptoms and travel history.

24HR NICD HOTLINE 0800 029 999
REMAIN VIGILANT AND ADOPT GOOD PERSONAL HYGIENE PRACTICES
The situation is evolving, check updates on www.health.gov.za and www.nicd.ac.za

4 TSE O TSHWANETSENG GO DI TLHOKOMELA GO TILA GO TSENWA KE MORARE

- 

1 GO TLHAPA DIATLA

Tihapa diatla sentle ka metsi a a nang le sesepa. Tihapa kafa morago ga diatla, fa gare ga menwana le ma teng ga dinala. Ka metlha tihapa diatla ka sesepa pele ga o o ja le fa o se na go nna fa gare ga batho ba le bantsi.


- 

2 GO NNA O PHEPAFETSE MO MMELENG SENTLE

Ipipe molomo ka pampiri ya thishu fa o gothola kgotsa o ehimola. Ka dinako tsothe tila go itshwara sefathego ka diatla tse di leswa fa o tshwana go dira jalo, dira gore o tihape diatla sentle ka sesepa pele.
- 

3 O SE KA WA JELA MO SEJANENG SE LE SENGWE LE MONGWE LE GO TLHAKANELA DIDIRISIWA

Bakteria e ka anamisiwa ka dithipa, diforoko, maswana le diseteroo. Dirisa fela didirisiwa tse di phepa mme o se ka wa abelana seno sa gago le motho ya mongwe. Ka metlha tihapa diatla pele ga o ja.
- 

4 BONA NGAKA FA O SA IKUTLWE SENTLE

Matshwao a a tlwaelegile a balwetse jono ke go gothola, go elela mamina, le go thasela mowa. Fa o nna le matshwao ano a balwetse, batla bongaka kwa ntle ga go dia nako. Leletsa ba tiliniki kgotsa ngaka pele ga o ya go ba bona mme o ba itsise ka matshwao a gago a balwetse le kwa o neng o etetse teng.

MOGALA O O KA LELEDIWANG DIURA TSE 24 WA NICD KE 0800 029 999
NNA O BUTSE MATLHO MME DIRA GORE O IPOLOKE O LE PHEPA KA METLHA
Seemo seno se a tswela, nna o tshika tsa bashing mo go www.health.gov.za le mo go www.nicd.ac.za


health
Department of Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



4 VOORSORGMAATREËLS OM BESMETTING TE VOORKOM

- 

1 WAS JOU HANDE

Was jou hande gereeld. Gebruik seep en was jou hande deeglik bo, onder, tussen jou vingers en onder jou naels.


- 

2 GOEIE PERSOONLIKE HIGIËNE

Hou altyd 'n nesie voor jou mond, wanneer jy hoë of nies. Probeer om nie onnodig aan jou gesig te raak nie, maar as dit dan nodig is, was jou hande eers deeglik met seep.
- 

3 MOENIE KOS EN EETGEREI DEEL NIE

Bakteriële kan op messe, vurke, lepels en strooitjies oorgedra word. Gebruik slegs skoon gereedskap en deel nie drankies nie. Maak u hande altyd skoon voordat u eet.
- 

4 SPREEK 'N DOKTER AS JY SIEK VOEL

Algemene simptome: Hoë, loopneus en kortasem. Dit is baie belangrik om met enige van hierdie simptome, mediese advies te kry. Skakel jou naaste kliniek of dokter. Verduidelik die simptome en verskaf alle reisinsigting.

24HR NICD HOTLINE 0800 029 999
WEES ALTYD VERSIGTIG EN VOLHOU MET GOEIE HIGIËNE
Die situasie ontwikkel steeds en jy kan op hoogte bly by www.health.gov.za en www.nicd.ac.za



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