

# MPHATLALATSANE

DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE & RECREATION NEWSLETTER **NALEDI YA MESO**

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## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Issue 6



August is a very important month on our departmental calendar of events. As a department it is the month when we celebrate the Basotho New Year. The Basotho New Year celebration serves to promote the history of Basotho people through their music, language, food and attire which set Basotho apart from other nations. This year's celebration was even more special because we have not been able to celebrate this monumental event for two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Basotho came in numbers to our annual celebration, food; music and

traditional Basotho attire were the order of the day. Sesotho ke puo e atileng, e buuwang ke 64% ya baahi ka hara provense ya Freistata. Ka hoo, re tlameha ho se baballa le ho se kgothaletsa jwalo ka dipuo tse ding.

August is also Women's Month. During this month we pay tribute to the more than 20 000 women who marched to the Union Buildings on 9 August 1956 in protest against the extension of Pass Laws to women. A system meant to control women even further and reduce women to passive beings. We celebrated this

year's Women Month under the theme: "Women's Socio-Economic Rights and Empowerment: Building Back Better for Women's Improved Resilience". The concept of Generation Equality is a global campaign and links South Africa to global efforts to achieve gender equality by 2030. Women are still confined by their circumstances and patriarchy in our society. We need to strengthen our efforts in fighting gender inequalities, in our homes, offices and on our sporting grounds.

*Mrs L.P. Mahasa*  
MEC: Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation



**CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF SOLOMON LINDA AND SOUTH AFRICA'S INDIGENOUS MUSIC**

**#LegacyofSolomonLinda**  
**#OurIndigenousMusic**



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# DSACR HOSTS LANGUAGE ROUNDTABLE WITH ACADEMICS



The Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) hosted a roundtable with Sesotho academics to discuss areas of mutual interest,

cooperation and assistance. This roundtable was hosted in Mangaung and the Acting HOD for DSACR Ms Nokuzola Thamae welcomed all guests

and encouraged everyone to protect and promote indigenous languages, particularly those spoken in the Free State Province. Academics from higher education

institutions in the Free State Province such as Professor Phindane (CUT), Dr Motake (CUT), Dr Molete (CUT), Dr Maletle (UFS), Dr Motsei (UFS), Dr Mohatlane

(UFS, Retired) graced this occasion and brainstormed on the way forward for language development in the Free State.



# MACUFE HOMEBREW PROGRAMME



The Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) staged the 2022 MACUFE Homebrew programme in the four (4) districts of the province and the Mangaung Metro Municipality from 1 to 17 September 2022. This programme unfolded after two (2) years of absence due to COVID-19 pandemic.

The primary

objective of MACUFE Homebrew programme was to provide a platform for local artists during the Mangaung African Cultural Festival (MACUFE). Implementation of Homebrew programme in the various districts also serves as a mini-festival programme which accords ample opportunity for local artists and communities to continue to, inter alia, show-

case their talent and participate in the cultural and artistic programmes. Various art genres that were presented for selection during the district festivals will culminate into the provincial Homebrew programme which will be staged alongside the main stage of MACUFE in October.

Reflecting on this programme, the Member of the Executive Council

(MEC) for Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation, Mrs Limakatso Mahasa, noted: "This programme is not an isolated event from the broader arts and culture programmes that the Department has been implementing throughout the years. Even with challenges presented by COVID-19, which made it difficult for mass programmes to be implemented, the

Department continued to find ways to provide platforms for local artists to continue earning a living and showcase their talents whenever the environment allowed. We are delighted that local artists will, yet again, have an opportunity to continue to practice their craft on the main stage of MACUFE".





# PROVINCIAL SOCIAL COHESION DIALOGUE



The Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation hosted a Provincial Social Cohesion Dialogue in Mangaung, Bloemfontein. Female officials and stakeholders from all five (5) districts of the province have converged in Mangaung to discuss the pandemic that is Gender Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF). SAPS, Heartlines, Department of Health and SANAC are some of the stakeholders that formed part of this dialogue.

Mme Mpho Matomela who is a professional nurse

(forensic) spoke about the importance of getting medical assistance within 72 hours after sexual assault. This period is said to be important because this is the window during which sexually transmitted infections such as HIV and unwanted pregnancies can be prevented. It is also the period when victims most need psychological and social support. *“Even if you are undecided on whether you want to open a case against your perpetrator, please go seek medical assistance. The evidence will be collected and stored for a*

*certain period of time whilst you decide whether or not to proceed with the assault case”*, said Matomela.

Brigadier Lekhele, the provincial head of family violence, child protection and sexual offenses unit from SAPS spoke about the importance of reporting sexual offences no matter how young or old the victim might be. *“We (SAPS) have a way or mechanisms that we use to collect evidence or statements from every type of victim. With very young children we use play therapy because that is how children express*

*themselves easily; we even have ways to communicate with people with disabilities. Alcohol is said to be the main contributor of violence against women and children. Some victims are unable to remember what happened to them because in some instances they themselves were under the influence of alcohol. As the SAPS we urge people (especially women because they are more vulnerable) to be vigilant when going out to places of entertainment, notify someone of your whereabouts at all times and if possible always be in groups of more*

*than three people”*, said Brigadier Lekhele

The purpose of this important event was to ensure that women not only discuss but also come up with ways that will be instrumental in assisting with this pandemic. The information that these stakeholders and other’s shared with the officials is instrumental in ensuring that women are equipped with the necessary knowledge on how to protect themselves and their loved ones, as well as how to get help should the unfortunate occur.

# SESOOTHO LITERATURE MUSEUM HOSTS SE- SOTHO LITERATURE MUSEUM DIALOGUE 11

The Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation through its Sesotho Literature Museum (SLM), hosted a dialogue in an interactive workshop format with the community of Fateng tse Ntsho (Paul Roux). The role of SLM was to serve as a resource to schools, tertiary institu-

tions and general museum communities, for research and recreational purposes. This was aimed at enhancing pride and cultural identity amongst our youth. The event was also used to achieve the outcomes of indicators as stipulated in the Departments Annual Performance Plan (APP) which are:

- *Number of promotional interventions on promotion of National symbols and orders.*
- *Number of community outreach programmes in Libraries, Museums and Archives conducted.*

The community of Fateng tse Ntsho benefitted immensely from this experience as there were presentations from museum services, arts and culture and community sport. This dialogue which was held under the theme *“Tsosoloso ya lerato la puo le dingolwa tsa Sesotho”* was the eleventh one in a

series of dialogues since 2013.

SLM also appreciated the contribution by young women in Sesotho poetry such as the dynamic Nthabiseng JahRose Jafta and the remarkable wordsmith, Maleshoane Ladybird Mphutlane.



# PROVINCIAL INDIGENOUS GAMES



The Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) in partnership with the Mangaung Metro Municipality, FS Indigenous Games Federation, Thaba Nchu Sport & Recreation Council, Love Life, Mangaung Sport Confederation as well as Mangaung

Indigenous Committee hosted the 2022 Provincial Indigenous Games to celebrate indigenous sport codes that were previously neglected as a result of western influences on African civilization. Participation in Indigenous Games emphasizes physical development, skills training

and maintenance, reinforcement of values and interaction between communities. DSACR through its Community Sport Directorate has committed itself to promote these games from town level up to provincial level. All established and active clubs in Local Municipalities

were afforded an opportunity to go through the elimination stages on the following codes:

1. Iintonga,
2. Morabaraba,
3. Jukskei,
4. Dibeke,
5. Ncuva,
6. Khokho
7. Diketo
8. Kgati
9. Drie Stokies.

These Provincial Games were also

used as a platform to select outstanding players in all codes that will represent the Free State Province at the National Indigenous Games Festival to be held in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal from the 24-29 September 2022.



# BASOTHO NEW YEAR CELEBRATION IN QWAQWA



On the 6th of August 2022 Basotho and cultural enthusiasts descended on the Basotho Cultural Village near QwaQwa to celebrate the annual Basotho New Year celebration. Basotho New Year is celebrated annually after the last days of winter to give way to new life after the dry season. Basotho New Year starts in August, which is known for its blowing winds and it being the month when fields are

cultivated and the first crop from the cultivation is offered as a sacrifice to Tlatlamatjholo (God).

Basotho Cultural Village, located in the picturesque and mountainous surroundings, served as an epic backdrop for the celebration of Basotho New Year. This is a living museum which depicts and preserves the Basotho cultural history and heritage. Both the tangible and intangible history of the Basotho people

are showcased and preserved through the museum.

The MEC for Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation, Me. Limakatso Mahasa and Premier of the Free State, Me. Sefora Ntombela were ushered in on a horse cart whilst being escorted by Basotho men on horseback led by a grand march by various cultural groups. Traditional healers officially opened the programme by performing their rituals to usher in

the New Year.

Premier of the Free State Province, Me. Sefora Ntombela reminded the Basotho nation of the importance of this day and highlighted the important role that is played by Basotho nationals in the Free State province as the country of Lesotho is a stone throw away from the Free State. Premier Ntombela also pointed out that Sesotho is the dominant language in the province, spoken by 64% of the population.

This year's celebration featured arts and craft exhibitions by local smme's, museum services, SANPARKS and other institutions all depicting their services to the attendees of the event. The patrons were also treated to Sesotho traditional cuisine such as dipabi, dikgobe and traditional beer. Traditional music groups performed dances such as mokgibo and mohobelo for the delighted audience.

