



MFOLOZI NEWS

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Message from the Mayor



As the Mayor of Mfolozi Municipality, I am proud to announce the launch of our newsletter to keep the communities informed on what's happening within the municipality. We have had our challenges as a new, smaller local authority in KZN, but in many respects have been at the forefront of municipal progress. Our Integrated Development Plan (IDP) has been seen by our residents as the policy vehicle to effect change, to meet needs of communities and to establish the infrastructures needed to make democracy a reality in this part of the country.

I have personally made it my objective to hold political office bearers and our

public servants accountable; to deliver more and better services in a caring and efficient manner; to move from debate to effective implementation and above all to communicate with and to work in close partnership with the Mfolozi communities.

Given the constraints on the revenue side tough decisions have had to be made which impacted improvement of service delivery. However the economic downturn has severely affected businesses and the residents of our area. We have therefore had to strategize and cut costs to channel our limited resources to where they are most needed. I must emphasize that residents' participation in achieving our

goals is encouraged and is constantly improving.

I would like to compliment Councillors for the valuable contributions which they continue to make in identifying both ways and means to improve the daily lives of our residents and for the co-operation, over party political lines which we in this municipality continue to experience.

The staff must be complimented for their tireless work for the benefit of our Mfolozi community.

- Clr SW Mgenge - Mayor

Message from the Municipal Manager

It gives me great pleasure to be able to communicate with residents of Mfolozi Municipality via our newsletter. This quarterly newsletter will keep residents informed on the happenings within the municipality.

The Mfolozi Municipality is striving to become a beacon of hope for the communities that it services. As the municipal manager it is my responsibility to ensure that all of our departments strive to provide good performance and service delivery in the face of a stringent budget. The budget which set aside for the provision of service delivery, is well spent and on target in meeting the provision of services to the needy communities.

The integrated development plan objectives are being met to a large extent. I am optimistic that this year will also be as successful as the previous ones if not more.

One also need not forget to state the municipality's commitment to achieve a clean audit report. The Municipality is equally committed to a clean administration which upholds a very high level of ethics which finds expression in the municipality that is totally ethical and corruption free. I trust that in the months that follow, our residents and stakeholders will see the many service delivery benefits that our departments are striving to provide become a reality. Residents

within our municipality will note the considerable changes that have already started and those that will be rolled out in the future. As a municipality we all need to work together to ensure that we meet the developmental goals and objectives for our municipality.

I would like to thank everyone within all spheres of government, stakeholders, the community for which the municipality exists, audit committee, the councilors, management and staff of the municipality who makes it possible for us to achieve what we set out as a team.

- Mr KE Gamede - Municipal Manager



Mfolozi Municipality is one of six municipalities within the district. The N2 National Road passes through the municipality, which connects it to major towns such as Richards Bay and Durban. The significance of this road to the Municipality is that it serves as the major economic corridor in the area.

The Mfolozi Municipal Area comprises a long flat coastal plain rising gently from the coast towards the west. The coastal plain is interspersed by high dunes and is further characterized by a number of short perennial rivers that originate within the area and either drain northwards towards the Umfolozi River or towards the coastal lakes in the vicinity of Richards Bay to the south.

Two coastal lakes lie within the area, Lake Nhlabane on the coast and Lake Eteza towards the north.

Our Vision, Mission and Core Values:

Councillors, Management and Municipal Officials should promote an economical sound municipality with available infrastructure and empower people, protect environment and demonstrate good governance in leadership.

Our Vision:

TO PROVIDE SERVICE DELIVERY THAT CREATES A BETTER LIFE FOR ALL PEOPLE OF MFOLOZI

Our Mission:

Mfolozi Municipality will deliver services that will meet the needs of its people through:

- Promoting social and economic development;

- Sustainable and affordable service delivery;
- Promoting itself as a preferred tourist destination;
- Establishing itself as an investor friendly industrial node; and
- Effective and efficient leadership.

In order to achieve its Vision and Mission, the Mfolozi Municipality will uphold the Values of:

- Respect
- Integrity
- Innovation
- Excellence
- Responsiveness
- Accountability



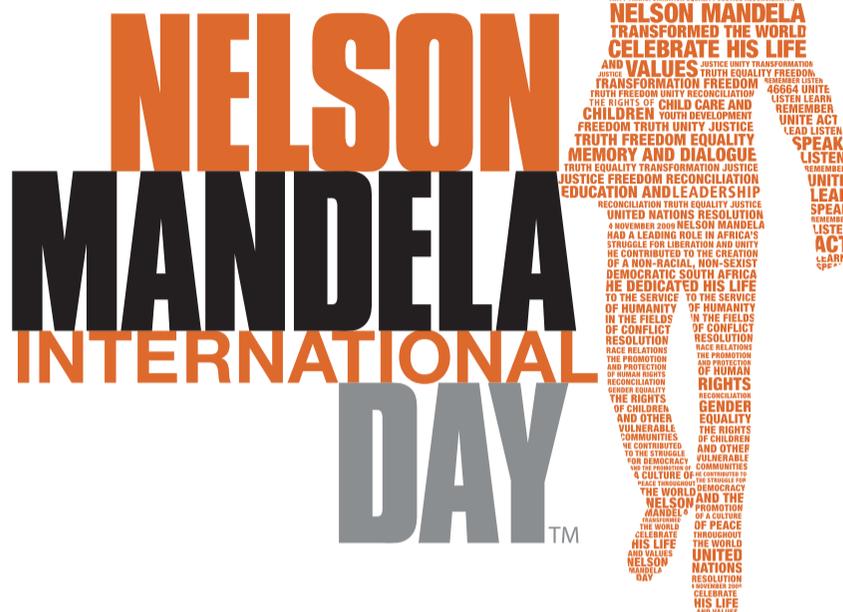
Mfolozi Municipality clean-up on Mandela day!

In celebration of Nelson Mandela's birthday the Mfolozi Municipality embarked on a clean-up campaign in the community. The municipality staff also got out of the office to clean up all the various illegal dumping sites in the area.

Amongst the people who were involved in cleaning up the area was the Mayor of Mfolozi Municipality, Cllr SW Mgenge, councillors and officials all carrying black bags doing their 67 minutes and of community service and setting an example by picking up litter. Mayor Mgenge encouraged the public to keep their communities clean and that the municipality will continue to assist with the cleaning even after Mandela Day.



Images Mfolozi Municipality and community members visited various areas in commemoration of Mandela Day. Activities included cleaning the area and handing over houses to families.



Keeping Mandela's legacy alive!

The Kwa-Zulu Natal First Lady and uThungulu District Municipality Mayor, Mrs Thembeke Mchunu together with the Mayor of Mfolozi Municipality, Cllr Mgenge, officially handed over new houses to three disadvantaged families from the rural area of KwaMbonambi. Three families were nominated as beneficiaries and received, brand new fully furnished homes which was made possible through partnerships with various sponsors. The mayor expressed his gratitude to the sponsors who in keeping with the spirit of Nelson Mandela were able to sponsor these homes.

There is a poverty eradication plan in place within the municipality

which will ensure that its citizens are provided with the necessary basic services. The IDP for the municipality is being implemented and in time will ensure that more housing will be made available to the communities. The municipality together with the provincial housing department have already developed a house delivery strategy which will be starting within the next few months.

This strategy is part of a long term plan to provide more housing and economic development within the municipal district. This will also drive economic activity within the municipality and create more jobs.

Deputy Mayor Cllr Mathamsanqa Edna Ntshangase handing over a fully furnished house to a recipient from the Khumalo family in KwaMbonambi.



Women Economic Empowerment is key for the development of Mfolozi



In celebration of Women's Month, the Mfolozi Municipality hosted the Women's Economic Empowerment Conference on 26 August 2014.

More than a hundred aspiring female cooperatives benefitted from this insightful conference aimed at empowering women in business. The uThungulu District Mayor, Cllr Thembeke Mchunu delivered the keynote address and said that the conference was effort by the local municipality to empower and honour women whilst moving them forward. The conference brought together the private sectors, especially the banks and government parastatals in an effort to promote economic empowerment of women. This formed part of the provincial economic integration strategies which have been put in place to assist women and their cooperatives. The conference was a platform for information sharing and for local women to raise challenges that they are faced with in running their cooperatives.

"It is important that we identify the current factors and social trends limiting women's ability to take advantage of economic policies put in place by government through provincial economic initiatives. This conference will provide us with further knowledge of the various financial institutions or organizations that have gender specific funds designed to empower women", said the District Mayor.

Cooperatives, and other collective forms of economic and social enterprise, have shown themselves as distinctly beneficial to improving women's social and economic capacities within the area of Kwambonambi. Mfolozi municipality understands the role women play in driving the economy of region and therefore promotes and supports women led initiatives.

Official handover of Sabokwe Community Hall

The Sabokwe community hall in ward 5 was officially opened on Friday, 19 September 2014. Community members and councillors were present at the event in large numbers to witness the official opening and handover ceremony.

The Deputy Mayor of Mfolozi Municipality, Cllr Mathamsanqa Edna Ntshangase, delivered the keynote at the event where she highlighted the great work that the municipality is doing in uplifting and developing communities especially those in the rural areas.

She said that the opening of the hall symbolised and showed just how committed the municipality is in ensuring that the lives of community members are made better. "There is always a good story to tell when the Mfolozi Municipality delivers to the community", as she concluded.

Right: Councillors of Mfolozi Municipality handover Sabokwe Local Community Hall.



Mayor Mgenge and district Mayor of Thungulu, Cllr TVB Mchunu hand over a beautiful house to the Khumalo family in KwaMbonambi.



New housing delivery continues.



Official opening of Impumelelo Pay Point Shelter

The Mfolozi Municipality recently hosted the Impumelelo Pay Point Shelter handover ceremony in ward 8, in KwaMbonambi. This new building is set to help in delivering pensions and other state grants to the community.

This is an initiative by the local municipality to strengthen the community, through the opening of this pay point facility, the municipality has seen a greater co-operation between this community and government which will see the benefit going to the elderly community members.

Pensioners will no longer have to queue for the whole day in harsh weather conditions such as rain, cold, as well as hot conditions every time they receive their social grants from South African State Security Agency (SASSA) at the local spaza shop in the township.



The Mfolozi Municipality's approach to such a development is one that is integrated. The municipality is holistically giving substance to this principle by integrating social services that are rendered by the provincial and the local governments to their community. This approach will go a long way of intervening in the

acceleration of service delivery for the local community of KwaMbonambi.

The provision of this centre will in a great way tackle service delivery interventions, as it will enable the community to access government services at ease and without having to travel to the nearest towns to collect their grant.



Above Left: Impumelelo Pay Point facility.

Above: Mfolozi Municipality Councillors and local elderly people were extremely excited at the handover ceremony of the Impumelelo Pay Point in KwaMbonambi.

Zisize Women Empowerment hands over school uniforms to pupils of Njeke Primary School

As part of women's empowerment initiatives, the women from Zisize Women Empowerment recently donated school uniforms to pupils at Njeke Primary school where many of the pupils came from destitute families and child-headed households.

The dire need for uniforms, food and resources should be an ongoing programme to ensure that our school children keep focused on achieving a good education, and not worry about basic necessities. While government is making every effort to meet the basic needs of the school children. It is initiatives such as this that assists in helping government achieve its objectives.



Women of Zisize Women Empowerment gather at Njeke Primary School for a great course.

Sod Turning for Masuku Road

Mfolozi Municipality turn the sod on Masuku Road in ward 8, KwaMbonambi.

The Mfolozi Municipality Councillors on the Friday, 3 October 2014, held a sod turning to mark the beginning of the construction of Masuku Road which is a project that will take about 6 weeks to complete to the tune of R1 million. This project has created 4 jobs for the local community. Work has begun at Masuku Road, in ward 8.

The new road will facilitate the commuting of communities and form part of an economic driver for the community.

Caring4Girls Programme launched in Mfolozi Municipality



Young girls at the launch of the Caring4Girls Programme in Isiphephelo High School.

The Mfolozi Municipality officially launched the Provincial Programme for Caring4Girls in partnership with Imbumba Foundation at Isiphephelo High School on Tuesday, 23 September 2014. The school is one of the

Caring4Girls beneficiary schools which have been sponsored by uThungulu Community Foundation.

In order to create awareness the programme has been endorsement

by the Kwa-Zulu Natal Department of Education. The programme has so far distributed over 67,000 sanitary pads, which have been donated to girls in rural communities.

The founder of the Imbumba Foundation, Richard Mabaso saw the need to start a peer conversation among girls explaining puberty and adolescence, but most importantly, Richard wanted to reduce school absenteeism caused by the lack of or poor sanitary protection for girls from rural schools.

Caring4Girls programme is a sanitary towels and hygiene programme for underprivileged girls mainly residing

in the rural communities. The main objective of the programme is to provide puberty and hygiene training to underprivileged girls and most importantly support them with sanitary towels for a minimum period of one year. The girls are also equipped with a menstrual hygiene booklet with all the information that they require.

It has been revealed that most girls from poor backgrounds are said to miss up to 50 schooling days every year due to menstrual challenges. Therefore this programme aims to address this issue. The programme has made considerable strides in helping schoolgirls in the past two years in Mpumalanga, Limpopo and as well as KwaZulu-Natal.