

# THE UPDATE

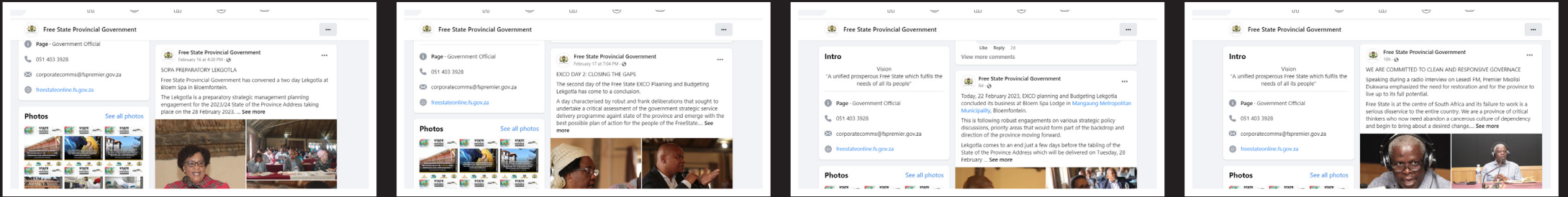


FREE STATE PROVINCE

“THE PULSE OF COMMUNICATION EXCELLENCE IN THE FREE STATE GOVERNMENT”



## SOCIAL MEDIA NEWS FEED



# MAIDEN SOPA BY PREMIER DUKWANA INSPIRES HOPE

## STRONG EMPHASIS ON TACKLING CORRUPTION DOMINATES PREMIER’S ADDRESS

Premier Mxolisi Dukwana has hit the ground running in his first few days in office.

On Tuesday, 28 February 2023, Premier Dukwana delivered his maiden State of the Province address in Mangaung. The Premier made strong emphasis that corruption and maladministration have no place in government, declaring that ““Never again will this province be used as the breeding ground for corruption!”

He further reiterated that service delivery starts with oneself and that more needs to be done to ensure good service delivery for our citizens.

Unqualified senior officials will be put to book and this will promote the Batho Pele principles.



“

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- PREMIER MXOLISI DUKWANA

“We have experienced the painful truth that fraud and corruption are not victimless crimes. The financial management and performance information audit outcomes of the Free State provincial and local government sector, clearly indicate our shortcomings in compliance with good governance principles, systems and processes. Our human resource capacity falls short of expectations and requirements,” said Premier Dukwana. He also said tackling corruption will adopt a multi-pronged approach, which will involve government departments and law enforcement agencies.

“We will establish a new Fraud and Corruption Task Team that will bring together key stakeholders such as the Office of the Auditor-General, Public Protector, the Public Service Commission, the criminal justice system and key provincial departments such as the Office of the Premier, Provincial Treasury and COGTA to drive

the anti-corruption programme of government,” he said.

Agriculture is also top of the premier’s list of things to focus on as he believes strongly in the notion of self-sustainability.

“If we are to build a society that is able to sustain itself, we need to take a deeper look into farming and agriculture at large, after all we live in an agricultural province.” Premier Dukwana said to curb rampant unemployment, the Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation has an important role to play in developing and harnessing the talents of young people in the province.

“The department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation is also a heartbeat of our youthful province and needs to

become a haven for our artists,” said Premier Dukwana who has already declared his interest in the well-being of the youth.

On roads and infrastructure, the Premier said “Roads need attention and rehabilitation, this should be attended to immediately with no time frames set , only commitment will yield results”.

Directly after delivering a well-rounded State of the Province Address, the Premier hosted members of the media in a warm networking session before heading to the SABC studios for a live and interactive conversation with members of society pertaining to his speech.

This was all in a day’s work for the Premier who emphasized the importance of a collective effort if the Free State province is to thrive.



## MEC TSIU CONDEMNS THEFT OF MEDICATION

Member of the Executive Council responsible for Health in the Free State province Montseng Tsiu has strongly condemned theft of medication at health facilities. This, after a 32 year – old man was arrested in Bergman Square, Mangaung, on 9 February 2022, the suspect was found in possession of Antiretroviral drugs to the value of R40 000. MEC Tsiu said the suspect's actions placed many lives at risk. "This man's reckless and insatiable greed put a lot of people who need ARVs in grave danger. He was

so blinded by his love for money that his actions placed our people, who need the medication literally to stay alive, at risk. I am thankful that he was caught before he had a chance to sell them and I wish to take my hat off to the police for arresting and putting him behind bars. I hope for a successful prosecution and a lengthy prison sentence," said MEC Tsiu. The suspect was arrested after members of Mangaung Metro Tactical Response Team following intelligence on the suspect. The team arrived at the

identified house just before 10:00 am on the 9th of February and conducted a search. Three boxes containing Adco Lamivudine, Zidovudine, Aluvia and Euthyrox bottles were found hidden under the bed and confiscated. The medicines had the name of a pharmacy and prescription details.

The suspect was arrested and charged with possession of presumably stolen property and contravention of medi-

cines and related substances act.



## PREMIER DUKWANA CONGRATULATES PROTEAS FOR REACHING WORLD CUP FINAL

Premier of the Free State province Mxolisi Dukwana has congratulated the South African national cricket team, the Proteas Women, for reaching the ICC Women's T20 World Cup where they unfortunately lost to Australia on Sunday, 26 February. Premier Dukwana said he was pleased that the team was led by Coach Hilton Moreeng from Bloemfontein, Mangaung. Coach Moreeng was assisted by Dillon du Preez, also from Bloemfontein as well as Molebatsi Theletsane, the team physio. Masabata Klaas, from Botshabelo was the only player in the team from the Free State province. "I am beyond proud that our ladies, the Proteas, managed to reach the final even though they came second best. I am most pleased because the team is under the stewardship of coach Moreeng and assistant coach Du Preez, who are proud Free Staters," Premier Dukwana said. He continued: "The ladies set a record of becoming the first South African senior national cricket team to reach the ICC World Cup final which, on its own, was a victory," said Premier Dukwana. The Premier further said sport plays a crucial role in the development of young people, and added that government has to play a role in harnessing the talents of young people. "I know the importance of sports in the lives of young people. We need to harness the talent that our young people have been blessed with so that they are able to make something of their lives," he said.

## MOTHEO DISTRICT BAGS AWARDS

MEC for Education Tate Makgoe has congratulated teachers from Motheo district after winning the 2022/23 of National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) best schools and district awards

The Minister of Basic Education (DBE) in partnership with the Tiger Brands Foundation, hosted the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) Best Schools and Districts Awards Ceremony in Pretoria on 22 February 2023.

The initiative is a government programme that provides meals to learners from poor households. Some of the schools that received awards are:

Gelukwaarts Primary School from the Motheo District received two Samsung cellphones for submitting the best NSNP portfolio.

Moutloatsi Primary School in Thaba Nchu and Mpatlalatsane Special School in Fezile Dabi District received kitchen equipment for Milk Day. Motheo District won the Best District prize and received two laptops, printer and kitchen equipment.

Deputy Minister for the Department of Basic Education, Reginah Mhaule said, through collective efforts, the implementation of the NSNP will be sustainable to support millions of learners in the coming years.



## NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN!

The Free State Provincial Government now has a new leader at its helm, one who we can all agree is tried and tested. Highly experienced and is a ground force.

Premier Mxolisi Dukwana has worked his way up the ranks of both Provincial Legislature and Government throughout the years and has a remarkable track record to show.

In his welcome address at the 4th Raadsaal, the

Premier thanked his beloved party as well as citizens of the Province for the faith they have shown in him by electing him into leadership, he has also committed to serving with diligence and humility in the same way that he has recently led the departments of Cooperative Governance as well as Human Settlements to clean audits during his first year in office as MEC.

Premier Dukwana comes into office hot on heels of



Former Premier Sefora Ntombela who served majority of her term and left a powerful legacy touching the lives of the people of the Free State before her resignation.

The newest first citizen of the Province will deliver his maiden State of the Province Address on 28 February and is expected to reshuffle and announce his cabinet soon after that.





# STATE — OF THE — PROVINCE ADDRESS

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#SOPA2023 #MakingYourFutureWorkBetter

