

Department SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICE of the MEC

OPENING REMARKS DELIVERED BY HONOURABLE NAKEDI KEKANA ON THE OCCASION OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION OF THE LIMPOPO DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE

Friday, 10 March 2023

The Mayor hourable Mayor.....?

HOD of our Department of Sport, Arts and Culture Ms Daphne Ramokgopha Our Chief Directors present here Waterberg District Head: Our Statutory and non-Statutory bodies present here

Ladies and gentlemen

It is a privilege to be here with you today.

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture through you here is richer, and fully charged to develop and nurture young sport and artistic talent.

I equally know that the region here is working on advancing the talent of talented persons for competitive and major events, while preserving the heritage resources and the promotion of National Days and symbols.

Programme director, as a department, we host and support competitive and major sport, arts and cultural events and provide library support services by establishing and maintaining community libraries, while at the same time, providing and making accessible archival records to preserve the history and memory of the province.

I am happy that the Oral History Recordings Programme that which we launched two weekends ago is well in swing, and I urge you to be in contact with our Archives and Records Unit to share the names of those struggle stalwarts who played a pivotal role in the attainment of our liberation.

I am quite sure that in the District, the names are there, you know them and we should record them in the history books.

Ladies and gentlemen, It is important that as we move to ensure that we are poised to deliver on our mandate as a Department, and we need to dig deep and involve our ethics and conscience as we go about our trusted day to day jobs.

In the process of safeguarding finances from operations here at the region and improve our core mandate, we need to protect whistleblowers. Let us remember the SONA speech delivered by President Cyril Ramaphosa last month when he referred to the State Capture Commission of Enquiry report and recommendations on the protection of whistleblowers, and assist him and his team in "...strengthening the system to protect whistle-blowers, who are a vital safeguard in the fight against corruption and who take huge personal risk in reporting wrongdoing".

The President assures us colleagues of a detailed review of all applicable legislation and a comparative study of other jurisdictions to strengthen whistle-blower protection. You are protected- if there is wrongdoing in your corner, please do report it.

I am not here to share with you what you know already, but to listen to you and the challenges you may be having in delivering your mandate.

Bear in mind that we will be tabling our budget vote on the 23rd of this month, and I believe that some of your recommendations will find expression in it. Let us deliberate frankly so that we can find each other.

I thank you!!