



NCOP

National Council of Provinces

PROVINCIAL WEEK PROGRAMME

Advancing the developmental agenda of municipalities for a better life for our people

21 – 24 JULY 2015

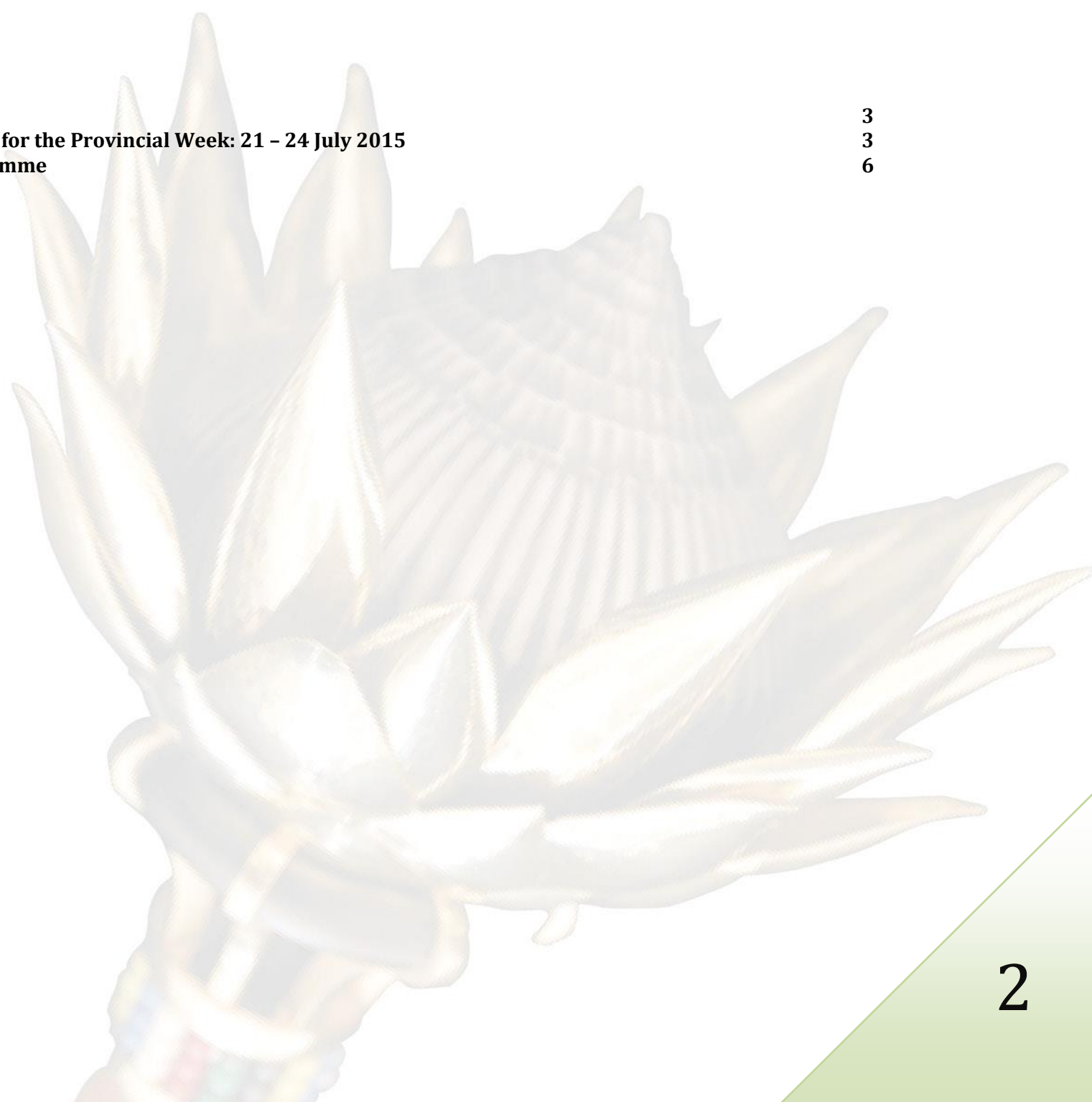
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1. Background

The Provincial Week is one of the key mechanisms established by the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) to achieve its mandate of representing the country's provinces in the national sphere. It was established in line with the provision of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act No. 108 of 1996), which obligates the NCOP to *"ensure that provincial interests are taken into account in the national sphere of government"*.

The concept of a Provincial Week first found expression at the First Preparatory Workshop for the Launch of the NCOP that was held in 1996. The Workshop concluded that such a Programme would ensure that the NCOP becomes: *"a centerpiece for the articulation of local government and provincial concerns at national level"*. The Provincial Legislatures spoke of the Provincial Week as: *"a mechanism to ensure that Provincial Delegates to the NCOP keep in touch with the provinces with the aim of receiving mandates on to be placed on the national agenda"*.

The Provincial Week is also in line with the move to build an Activist Parliament that plays an active role in giving expression to the needs and challenges facing communities. Thus, it accords Members of the NCOP an opportunity to:

- (i) Interact with the provinces and report back on their activities in the NCOP with the aim of obtaining new mandates on issues to be placed on the national agenda;
- (ii) Undertake oversight visits to projects to monitor the delivery of services to communities; and
- (iii) Convene public hearing and meetings in order to interact with communities to get *"first hand"* information on the delivery of services to communities.

Since its inception the Provincial Week has grown to be one of the key mechanisms used by the NCOP to oversee and collect information on the progress that provinces and municipalities are making in delivering quality services to the people. It also affords the NCOP an opportunity to undertake joint oversight and work together in ensuring the continuous monitoring of progress in the delivery of services to communities.

2. Focus and theme for the Provincial Week: 21 – 24 July 2015

2.1 Background

The signing of the new *Constitution of the Republic of South Africa*, 1996, shaped local government as the epicentre of the government delivery system and at the heart of poverty eradication initiatives. It created a framework and vision of a developmental local government, which would be the building block on which the reconstruction and development of South Africa and the new democratic society would be centred, a place in which the citizens of our country could engage in a meaningful and direct way with the institutions of the State. It also envisaged local



government as a sphere of government where most citizens interface with government, and its foundational ethos must be about serving people.

The Constitutional objectives for local government are set out in Section 152 of the Constitution: these are:

- (i) to provide democratic and accountable government of local communities;
- (ii) to ensure the provision of services to communities in a sustainable manner;
- (iii) to promote social and economic development;
- (iv) to promote a safe and healthy environment, and
- (v) to encourage the involvement of communities and community organisation in the matters of local government.

Further, both the 2000 and 2006 Local Government Democratic Elections heralded a new epoch for the local sphere of government informed by the imperatives of fast-tracking service delivery to local communities, enhancement of financial performance of municipalities, the strengthening of human resource capacity and broad consolidation of institutional capacity for municipalities.

The South African legislation on local government emphasizes that municipalities have a pivotal role of democratizing society and fulfilling a developmental role within the new dispensation. The mandate for local government is also succinctly contained in the preamble to the *Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, 1998* (Act 117 of 1998) as: *“A vision of democratic and developmental local government in which municipalities fulfil their constitutional obligations to ensure sustainable, effective and efficient municipal services, promote social and economic development, encourage a safe and healthy environment by working with communities in creating environments and human settlements in which all our people can lead uplifted and dignified lives”*.

The *White Paper on Local Government* asserts that *“basic services enhance the quality of life of citizens and increase their social and economic opportunities by promoting health and safety, facilitating access to work, to education, to recreation and stimulating new productive activities”*.

The mandate of municipalities implies that municipalities must have policies and institutional frameworks and programmes that are geared towards supporting and sustaining the development of communities. On the main, developmental local government is intended to have a major impact on the daily lives of South Africans. It should seek a new focus on improving the standard of living and quality of life of the people by addressing the pressing problems in areas of poverty, unemployment and inadequate resources.



Local government in South Africa has contributed to the achievement of a number of significant social and economic development advances, since the ushering in of the new democratic municipal dispensation in December 2000. It has been a driver of expanded access to a wide range of basic services and more opportunities have been created for their participation in the economy.

Notwithstanding the valuable role that municipalities have played in our new democracy, key elements of the local government system are showing signs of distress in. The reality is that the impetus that informs the drive for a developmental state that promotes growth and development hinges on the capacity of the local sphere of government to effectively discharge its responsibilities. Poor service delivery and governance remains an overwhelming challenge in most municipalities. Of major concern are the various institutional and governance constraints facing local government. This include weak financial viability of the municipalities, failure to prioritize community needs, IDP and budgeting processes that are not aligned, tensions between the political and administrative sections of the municipalities, corruption, lack of appropriate skills, lack of transparency, dysfunctional of ward committees, lack of accountability by councilors and municipal officials, lack of public participation in issues of governance, failure to comply with municipal legislation and other by-laws.

2.2 Focus

The Provincial Week of 21 – 24 July is intended to create a platform for members of the NCOP to examine the current state of local government in respect to its developmental mandate, service delivery and institutional capacity by visiting the best performing municipalities and municipalities under distress to look at the following issues:

- (i) **Delivery of basic services to communities:** *(water and sanitation, electricity, etc.);*
- (ii) **Financial viability:** *(quality of financial statements, credit rating, revenue base, revenue collection rate and systems such as billing systems and debt to state entities, including owed to the municipality by other state entities);*
- (iii) **Local economic development:** *(targeted economic sectors and initiatives);* and
- (iv) **Governance:** *(compliance with legislation, political stability, interventions, administrative deficiencies and malpractices such as maladministration, corruption, etc).*
- (v) **Spending on the Municipal Infrastructure Grant.**

2.3 Theme

The theme for the Provincial Week of 21 – 24 July 2015 is: ***“Advancing the developmental agenda of municipalities for a better life for our people”***. The theme is intended to give the various provincial delegations an opportunity to visit their provinces to assess the state of programmes and initiatives that are geared towards advancing the developmental agenda of municipalities. It is also intended to give delegates to the NCOP and Members of Provincial Legislature an opportunity to get *“first hand”* information and account of progress that municipalities are making in advancing the lives of our people and ensure its efficacy in line with constitutional imperatives.

3. PROVINCIAL PROGRAMME

3.1 PROVINCE: WESTERN CAPE

| MONDAY 20 July 2015 | Constituency Day | | | | |
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| DATE | TIME | ACTIVITY /MEETING | STAKEHOLDERS | VENUE | SUPPORT PERSONNEL |
| DAY ONE: TUESDAY 21 July 2015 | 09h00 – 10h00 | Chairperson: Speaker - Ms S Fernandez & NCOP Provincial Whip – Ms C Labuschagne <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome by Speaker Introduction Framework of the week Legislative Mandates (legislative issues to be raised in the NCOP) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presiding Officers Minister for Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning Permanent Delegates to the NCOP Whippery MPP's SALGA Office of the Auditor - General National Department of Water Affairs Provincial Dept of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning Provincial Dept of Economic Opportunities | Chamber, 6 th Floor, 7 Wale Street Cape Town | Support Staff: NCOP |
| | 10h00 – 11h00 | BRIEFING MEETING WITH PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE: Chairperson: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Briefing by Min A Bredell on the state of local government in the Province by highlighting, among others, the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The financial state of municipalities to be visited; Administrative, financial and governance support to those Municipalities; Interventions and support mechanisms; and Programmes and initiatives to address critical challenges and problems pertaining to effective | | | WCPP: Ncediswa Mayambela Johan Vermeulen Anneke Clark Shumeeze Jones Charles Adams Nomfundo Mshumpela Wayne Naidoo Anwille Barends |

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| | 11h00– 11h30 11h30 – 12h00 12h00 – 12h30 | and sustainable provision of basic services; administrative capacity and institutional performance of municipalities, as well as ensuring that municipalities align and implement their policies in line with government policies and programmes; and (v) Spending on the Municipal Infrastructure Grant 6. Briefing by the Auditor- General on previous audit findings (Kannaland and Beaufort West) 7. Briefing by SALGA: Deputy Chairperson - Cllr Grant Twigg 8. Questions and Answers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial Treasury | | |
| | 12h30 – 13h15 | LUNCH IN THE MEMBERS LOUNGE, 6th FLOOR, 7 WALE STREET | | | |
| | 13h30 – 17h30 | Travel to Ladismith (4hrs 30min/ 342km) DINNER Check in Hotel | | | |
| DAY TWO: WEDNESDAY 22 July 2015 | 08h00 08h30 – 11h30 | Registration Chairperson: NCOP Permanent Delegate Briefing by Kannaland Municipality on progress and challenges with regards to: (i) Delivery of basic services to communities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office of the Auditor-General SALGA / Mayors Municipal Managers Permanent Delegates to the NCOP MPP's | Ladismith Town Hall | Support Staff: NCOP WCPP: Ncediswa Mayambela |

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| | | | Development Planning • Provincial Dept of Economic Opportunities • Chamber of Commerce | | |
| | 17h00 – 17h35 17h35 – 18h35 18h35 – 21h00 | Travel from Calitzdorp to Oudtshoorn (34 min/52 km) DINNER IN OUDTSHOORN Travel from Oudtshoorn to Beaufort West (2hrs,30 min/ 182km) ACCOMMODATION IN BEAUFORT WEST Check in at the Hotel | | Oudtshoorn | |
| DAY THREE: THURSDAY 23 July 2015 | 08h00 | Depart Hotel for Meeting Venue | | | |
| | 08h00 08h30 – 10h30 | Registration Chairperson: NCOP Permanent Delegate Briefing by Beaufort West Municipality on progress and challenges with regards to: (i) Delivery of basic services to communities (including measures instituted to respond to water shortages); (ii) Financial viability (creditor and debtor management systems and their response to | • Office of the Auditor-General • SALGA / Mayors • Municipal managers • Permanent Delegates to the NCOP • MPP's • Entities • Public • National Department | Karoo Recreational Hall | Support Staff: NCOP WCPP: Ncediswa Mayambela Johan Vermeulen Anneke Clark Shumeeze Jones Charles Adams Nomfundo Mshumpela |



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| 10h30 – 11h30 | <p>the 2012/2013 audit outcomes);</p> <p>(iii) Local economic development (targeted economic sectors and initiatives);</p> <p>(iv) Governance (compliance with legislation, political stability, interventions, administrative deficiencies and malpractices such as maladministration, corruption,); and</p> <p>(v) Spending on the Municipal Infrastructure Grant.</p> <p>Questions from the Public</p> | <p>of Water Affairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial Dept of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning • Provincial Dept of Economic Opportunities • Chamber of Commerce | | Wayne Naidoo Anwille Barends |
| 11h30 – 12h30 | <p>Chairperson: NCOP Permanent Delegate</p> <p>Briefing by Central Karoo Development Agency on targeted economic sectors in the Central Karoo District and initiatives and projects implemented by the Agency</p> | | Karoo Recreational Hall | Support Staff: NCOP |
| 12h30 – 13h00 | <p>Questions from the Public</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of the Auditor-General • SALGA / Mayors • Municipal managers • HODs • Permanent Delegates to the NCOP • MPP's • Entities • Public • Provincial Dept of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning • National Department of Water Affairs • Dept of Economic Opportunities • Chamber of | | <p>WCPP:</p> <p>Ncediswa Mayambela Johan Vermeulen Anneke Clark Shumeeze Jones Charles Adams Nomfundo Mshumpela Wayne Naidoo Anwille Barends</p> |



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| | | Commerce | | |
| 13h00 – 14h00 | LUNCH | | | |
| | Chairperson: Mr M Mnqasela | | | |
| 14h00 – 14h30 | - Oversight Visit to Central Karoo Development Agency Premises | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of the Auditor-General • SALGA / Mayors • Municipal managers • HODs • Permanent Delegates to the NCOP • MPP's • Entities • Public • Provincial Dept of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning • National Department of Water Affairs • Dept of Economic Opportunities • Chamber of Commerce | 63 Donkin Street Beaufort West | Support Staff: NCOP WCPP: Ncediswa Mayambela Johan Vermeulen Anneke Clark Shumeeze Jones Charles Adams Nomfundo Mshumpela Wayne Naidoo Anwille Barends |
| 14h30 – 14h45 | Travel to next project | | | |
| 14h45 – 15h30 | - Beaufort West Youth Hub | | | |
| 15h30 – 15h45 | Travel to next project | | | |
| 15h45 – 16h30 | - S8 Sewer Pump Station | | | |
| 16h30 – 16h45 | Travel to next project | | | |
| 16h45 – 17h15 | Water Sewer Reclamation Plan | | | |
| 17h00 | Travel to Hotel | | | |
| 19h00 | DINNER | | | |
| | Check in Hotel | | | |



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| DAY FOUR: FRIDAY 24 July 2015 | Before Departure | Check out at the Hotel | | | |
| | 08h00 – 10h30 | Travel to Laingsburg (2hrs, 30 min/200km) | | | Support Staff: NCOP WCPP: Ncediswa Mayambela Johan Vermeulen Anneke Clark Shumeeze Jones Charles Adams Nomfundo Mshumpela Wayne Naidoo Anwille Barends |
| | 10h30 – 11h30 | DEBRIEFING MEETING: Report back on immediate issues emanating from the Provincial Week and possible resolutions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Permanent Delegates to the NCOP• MPP’s• SALGA | Laingsburg Grand Hotel | |
| | 11h30 | Travel to Cape Town (2hrs) | | | |

ENQUIRIES:

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