



SPORT USUTHU CROWNED CHAMPIONS OF MSUNDUZI CUP Page 8

### Emgodini taxi rank up and running



#### **By NOKULUNGA NGOBESE**

AFTER two months of not being operational, the situation is back to normal at the Emgodini taxi rank with taxis having started taking commuters again. At the beginning of June, taxi drivers deserted the rank which is at the basement of the Professor Nyembezi Building following complains about filth, leaking pipes, mosquitos and unusable toilets that became a health hazard to drivers and commuters who use the rank on a daily basis.

Following these complaints and the reality of the situation, the taxi rank which caters for both short and long distances had to temporarily relocated to the Hoosen Haffejee taxi rank. This caused serious traffic congestion much to the discomfort of taxi drivers and taxi users. This situation was compounded by the fact that this rank was already overcrowded. One of the concerns raised by city Mayor Councillor Themba Njilo after he went to assess the situation, was that the rank became a safe haven for criminals. It was also discovered that some illegal traders built small stalls inside which had an impact on leaking pipes.

Speaking at a full council meeting on recently, Acting Municipal Manager Neli Ngcobo said that the rank started operating again after it was cleaned and fumigated. Leaking pipes have also been repaired. Ngcobo further said the long term plan is to fix ventilation inside the rank. "We have fixed the gates to provide more security and avoid a situation whereby the rank becomes a home for thugs. The plan is to beef up security at the rank so that it can become a safe place again," she said.

Msunduzi Administrator Sibusiso Sithole said they underestimated the work that needed to be done at the rank, hence there is a long term plan to rehabilitate all the other ranks within the city. He further mentioned that while there is no specific budget for this project, such a project should be prioritized as the state of taxi ranks within the city has become a source of concern, and therefore needs urgent attention.

# Service delivery to be addressed



#### A broken communal standpipe causing concern (Photo: Nompendulo Ngubane)

By NOKULUNGA NGOBESE

N an attempt to address service delivery concerns in all the 39 wards under Msunduzi Municipality, a Rapid Response Task Team has been established within the municipality to conduct assessments around various wards. The task team which is led by Msunduzi Speaker Jabu Ngubo meets every Friday to discuss issues that affect residents and are hindering service delivery.

Tabling her report at a full council meeting recently, Ngubo raised concerns about the huge wastage of water in the city. To date some wards have already been visited and it was established that there are several water leaks that are left unattended. She also urged councillors to report leaking pipes. "There is a huge water wastage problem in the city and if this can be addressed diligently, half of our water loss problems can be sorted," said Ngubo.

It is also reported that the municipality is losing millions of litres of water annually due to theft, ageing infrastructure and leaks that are left attended for longer perionds. In the 2016/2017 financial year the city lost 21 million kilolitres of water which amounted to R119, 72 million. On a mission to address the water shortage issue, the Rapid Task Team is to visit various car washes to check all those car washes that are using water illegally.

Other problems identified by the task team include illegal dumping sites and verges that

are left unattended. Councillors applauded the initiative, however raised concerns that there should be a clear programme to visit all the wards rotationally instead of choosing randomly.

Ward 13 councillor Sibongile Mcwango applauded the initiative, saying that the results of these meetings are already bearing fruits in her ward as some service deliver issues are already being attended to. Ngubo further reminded councillors that the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta) in KwaZulu-Natal will be assessing all the wards under the municipality to check for their functionality. She said this is part of Cogta's intervention plan to assist those municipalities that have been put under administration.

#### IMPORTANT NUMBERS - WATER AND SEWAGE FAULTS 080 0001868

#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

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## **Progress at the Msunduzi landfill**

#### **By SINENHLANHLA KUBHEKA**

MSUNDUZI Mayor Councillor Themba Njilo ia happy with the progress made so far in cleaning the New England Road Landfill Site. The Mayor recently visited the landfill to see the progress of cleaning this place.

For the past months the site has not been in a good condition. The same is true for the road leading to it as it has become a dumping site due to the main site being full. The dirt that has accumulated in the area was becoming hazardous and unhygienic. Sobantu residents have expressed their unhappiness about the accumulation of dirt and state of the site.

The Mayor stated that, "There is a huge difference compared to before and we are still looking forward to cleaning the site and making sure that everything is in order."

Mr Mbuso Hlophe, who is the recycling officer said waste overflowing to the road outside the landfill was caused by the shortage of working tools. In spite of this limitation he stated that, "We are trying by all means to sustain the place".

Mr Mhlongo, who is the foreman of the site, mentioned that there is a water tank that comes to suppress the dust and it comes twice a day- morning and afternoon. Mhlongo also added that the landfill has become a home to some people. These are people who are almost residing there so that they can have access to recyclable goods that they can sell to make money to survive.

According to Mhlongo there are over 200 people who are collecting dumped goods in the site and they have been doing this for more than 10 years.

A system will be put in place to formalise such activities. He said, "We are in the process of getting containers so that people will dump recyclable goods in these containers. We need 10 containers for this process. We are also planning on building a wall berm."

He added that the dumping containers and the wall will decrease the number of people who are jumping over to collect refuse.

Resident Mthembeni Mthembu who collects waste at the dumpsite said, "We need jobs, we collect refuse here because we don't want to commit crime and we know that we are risking our lives here, we are educated but



New England Road Landfill Site before the cleanup (Photos: Sinenhlanhla Kubheka)



The landfill site after the cleanup

we are unemployed." Mayor Njilo responded by saying, "There is R2 million to support the recycling initiative and we will make a plan to mobilize these people and have a discussion with them on how we can assist because this is very dangerous to their lives." The recycling team took this opportunity to thank the manager of Msunduzi Parks for his intervention and speeding up the slow process and the Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA) for their support with two TLB's and one excavator.

### A new dawn of hope for the Jika Joe Community

#### **By NOKULUNGA NGOBESE**

**SERVICE DELIVERY** 

AFTER a few hurdles, the Jika Joe Housing Project is finally materializing with 800odd units already under construction. The housing project, which will see about 1 164 housing units constructed, is earmarked for completion next year.

The Department of Human Settlements in KwaZulu-Natal has injected R442 million into the project and Msunduzi Municipality has set aside an amount of R62 million to assist with the completion of the project.

It is envisioned that the project will bring a sigh of relief to many Jika Joe residents who have been living in temporary prefab units and slums for years.

As a result of these temporary structures that are adjacent to each other, the area has be prone to fires.

These two roomed units which include a kitchen, toilet, and a bathroom will be rented out to households with a monthly income between R800 and R3,500.

The project is split into three phases, with phase one being rolled out on the land presently used as Jika Joe's Tatham Sports field, phase two will be on the land adjacent to the temporary structures, while the last phase will see construction being conducted along Masukwana Street.

This follows a long period of requests by residents to restore the historical Tatham Sports field that was built in 1937.

However, Msunduzi Mayor Councillor Themba Njilo said that since the ground had



Construction at the Jika Joe Housing Project (Photo: Mbulelo Baloyi)

not been maintained for years, a decision was made to use it for a housing project as people lacked accommodation. This was seen as the best way of utilizing the land.

Commenting on the project, the spokesperson for the Department of Human Settlements in KZN Mbulelo Baloyi said, "These residential developments are in line with the department's vision of 'where we live is where we learn, play, work and pray' as said by MEC for Human Settlements and Public Works, Neliswa Peggy Nkonyeni."

Msunduzi Municipality spokesperson Thobeka Mafumbatha said that, as the municipality they applaud this initiative as they are committed to changing the lives of people.

She stated that, "The provision of decent housing is at the centre of our agenda. We will continue to improve the lives of our people."

## Youth unite government and communities

#### **By NOKULUNGA NGOBESE**

ROMPTED by a lack of understanding between communities and government structures, a youth based Non-Profit Organisation (NPO) from Pietermaritzburg has started a programme called Virtual State in a bid to encourage communities to work together with the government in finding amicable solutions with regards to problems affecting them.

The NPO, known as Natal Midlands Development Programme was established in 2009 and consists mainly of young people from Sweetwaters and Vulindlela areas. When the organisation was established, its main aim was to develop communities and to assist people who could not finish their matric under the old curriculum to rewrite their exams as the old curriculum had been phased out in 2007 and replaced with the Nation Curriculum Statement in 2008. Those who had not completed under the old curriculum had been given up until 2010 to rewrite their matric examinations under the old curriculum.

Virtual State President Mlungisi Mncwabe said that he identified a communication gap between government and communities after attending a Public Participation Workshop that was conducted by the KZN legislature. They had then decided to come up with a programme called Virtual State where by communities mimic what the government is doing in order to come up with their own solutions.

He said: "The programme works like any other parliament and executive as we assign people different portfolios from your President to Ministers, just like government does. These people are then responsible for debating about issues affecting their communities and at the same time are



Members of the Virtual State at the KZN Legislature (Photo: Supplied)

encouraged to find solutions at a community level. While this is a community based project,

we also ask for government's expertise

and guidance on issues that we are unable to solve by ourselves. This has happened through a virtual parliament whereby we were invited by KZN legislature in 2017 to come and debate our issues in parliament."

Mncwabe said often in communities, service delivery protests and dissatisfaction are as a result of a lack of understanding of how government works and vice versa as government cannot implement projects without understanding the needs of various communities.

'He said not only does the programme encourage public participation among communities, but it is also an educational process as they are taught about governance issues.

"We try and encourage people to align their agendas with what government is doing. We teach them about various issues such as the National Development Plan (NDP) and the Integrated Development Plan (IDP). It is important for communities to understand these concepts, so that they don't complain to municipalities about services not being rendered, when in fact they are not even in the priority list of IDP's."

He further added that since the programme started, people are slowly becoming aware of the role of government and that they cannot just wake up today and demand some services as everything has to be budgeted for.

Under the Virtual Environment & Ecosystems project which focuses on cleaning streams and removing invasive alien plants, 49 job opportunities have been created after the department has partnered with the initiative.

Virtual State Minister of Water & Sanitation, Nhlanhla Ndlovu said that the project will continue for the next three years and under this project there is also another programme to rehabilitate the iMbubu Mountain in Sweetwaters.

The organisation has developed a working relationship with the UKZN Community development.

## Finance MEC's tips on youth savings

MEC Ravi Pillay urges people to save money to avoid the debt trap

#### By SIBONELO MSOMI

FINANCE MEC in KwaZulu-Natal, Mr Ravi Pillay has called on people to start saving money to avoid the credit trap. If this call can be heeded the lives of people can be changed for the better.

Pillay is persuading the people of the province to stick to budgeting before spending so that they can spend in an organized way. The MEC said: "The proverbial expression loosely translated, 'the bull is among the calves'. It is for the same reason the campaign for money saving will focus more on youth so that they can start preparing for a brighter future."

The MEC said: "We are encouraging the youth to start at an early stage to adopt budgeting as a way of life if they plan to spend money. They must learn to understand the difference between what they need and what they want. This results to responsible way of handling money and limit its use only for what is necessary. Whatever is left over as change must be deposited into the bank or be channelled to stokfel accounts for emergencies like health care, renovations, funerals etc".

He further said it concerns him to him to see young people drowning in debt they could have avoided had they been taught budgeting skills early in their lives.

Mr Pillay said many people who succeed in handling their finances well are those that stick to budgeting before spending their money. "They know their needs and they plan in advance using the money they have in hand."

As far as he is concerned budgeting should be part of family discussions so as to know each family member's needs and those of the family. Important needs like bond payments, vehicle instalments, insurance, burial clubs, rates and groceries should never be disturbed if compared to entertainment, changing furniture and decorating a home.

"It becomes a lot easy if family members

#### It is important that people should not only focus on the negatives about savings but look at the benefits and start better ways of savings

agree on what they will spend having first looked at their income as family. They are able to plan according to what is priority or an emergency that cannot be put off," said Pillay.

He also advised people to save by using cash instead of credit. "If you buy something on cash you save more than if you buy it on credit and pay for it in instalments – The latter makes you to pay for the same item three times more than if you buy in cash," emphasized Pillay.

He cautioned people not to spend money they don't have, but rather be wise by spending on what they need, taking full



MEC Ravi Pillay (Photo: Africa Daily)

#### advantage of cash discounts.

According to the latest statistics by the South African Savings Institute (SASI), 20 million people in South Africa between the ages of 15 and 35 buy on credit. SASI attributes this to the fact that most youth are from previously disadvantaged black communities who were denied economic opportunities in the past, lack of job opportunities, tax pressures and the unstable economy.

The SASI Acting Head, Gerald

Mwandiambira is encouraging financial education. He believes saving is not dependent on income but rather more on whether one is prepared to learn about saving. Saving also need perseverance. Mwandiambira says people must talk to financial advisors so as to be equipped with better ways to save money.

"It is important that people should not only focus on the negatives about savings but look at the benefits and start better ways of savings," concludes Mwandiambira.

#### IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MANDELA

## **Call for recognition of sign language**

#### **By NOKULUNGA NGOBESE**

WAZULU–Natal MEC for Social Development Nonhlanhla Khoza has called on community members to adopt sign language as an important means of communication in order to accommodate those who are deaf and dumb.

MEC Khoza's plea comes after she visited Jika Joe Informal Settlement together with Msunduzi Mayor Themba Njilo. The visit comes after the death of Snethemba Dlamini, a deaf 13-year-old school girl who was found lying on the banks of Dorpsruit river at the beginning of this month.

The aim of the visit was to offer counselling services to community members after this gruesome discovery that left many shocked, and to also find out about the challenges that are faced by the community. It is alleged that the former Open Gate School pupil was first raped, killed and thereafter left half naked along the Dorpspruit river. Two men have already been arrested in connection with the murder.

Apart from this recent incident, the area which according to statistics from Msunduzi municipality has more than 400 households is gripped by various social ills which include a high rate of teenage pregnancies, alcohol and drug abuse, crime and electricity theft.

Addressing community members at a community gathering held at St John of Ark Roman Catholic Church, Khoza said: "As a department we are shocked by this brutal death of such a young life. Hence, we are advocating for the recognition of sign language as an important language across all sectors. It is possible that this child had been abused repeatedly but couldn't even convey her frustrations because she could not speak.



Residents listening to the speech by the MEC (Photo: Nokulunga Ngobese/Igunundu Press)

Had she and (those around her) understood sign language, she could have reported the matter in good time".

Khoza further said: "We are not only here to offer counselling services to the community, but we also want to plead with them to come and join forces with various departments in order to curb the scourge of crime. Fighting against crime is a collective responsibility, and not a one man show. I'm glad that the mayor is also here, as we would also like to plead for the installation of high mast street lights in this area." Khoza also encouraged community members to make use of war rooms in order to speak about issues that are affecting them.

While crime remains a continuous threat to the community, community member Vuyiswa Mlozama raised concerns that often their criminal cases are not taken seriously by police from Loop Street Police Station. "We don't know where the problem is, but whenever we mention that we are from Jika Joe Informal Settlements, the case is immediately dismissed. We don't know who to trust if people who are supposed to be protecting us are the same people who reject us," ended Mlozama.

City Mayor Councillor Themba Njilo said although the family of the deceased was not present, after this incident it was befitting for the municipality to visit residents and offer support. He said: "We are deeply saddened by the loss of such a young life. We urge community members to report such incidents while there is still time. We need to work together in order to fight against crime.One life lost is one too many." Njilo also gave a stern warning about electricity theft which is very rife in the area.

## Mothers urged to register new-borns

#### **By NOKULUNGA NGOBESE**

IN honour of South Africa's late struggle icon Nelson Mandela, the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, Njabulo Nzuza, recently visited various government institutions around the city in a bid to encourage people to have birth certificates and identity documents.

The programme which was attended by the Mayor of Umgungundlovu, Councillor Thobeka Maphumulo and Msunduzi Mayor, Councillor Themba Njilo, started at Edendale Hospital where new mothers were encouraged to apply for their children's birth certificates within the first 30 days after birth. It ended at the local KwaPoyinandi Hall near Ashdown which is used as a pay point office for grants.

The programme to register new births while still in hospital was officially introduced by the Department of Home Affairs in 2013. As a result, various government hospitals and clinics have small Department of Home Affairs offices. Since the programme started in 2013, according to research conducted by Statistics South Africa in 2017, North West has the highest number of new-born registrations at 92%, with KwaZulu Natal following at 66%.

Speaking to Msunduzi News, the Deputy Minister said that while there are many hospitals around the province that render Department of Home Affairs services, they decided to visit Edendale hospital because according to information given to them, about 2000 babies are born at this hospital every three months.

He said that it is important for mothers of new-borns to apply for their children's birth certificates, so that the children do not encounter problems when they are older. He further encouraged mothers to bring in their identity documents so that it will be



Deputy Minister and Umgungundlovu District Municipality Mayor urges mothers to register their new-borns. (Photo: Nokulunga Ngobese/Igunundu Press)

easy to apply for birth certificates. While the programme seems to be running smoothly, Nzuza also raised concerns that most fathers are still not part of the process. "We now have new birth certificates which are called unabridged certificates which need personal details of both parents. When fathers don't come forward with their particulars, it delays the process of getting the certificates as they cannot be issued without the father's details," said Nzuza

In 2015 the Department of Home Affairs introduced the Unabridged certificate under

Immigration Laws, so as to protect children from being victims of human trafficking.

One of the mothers, Thandi Dlamini, said a new lease of life has been given to new mothers as they no longer have to stand in long queues in order to apply for birth certificates.

Msunduzi mayor Themba Njilo applauded the initiative saying that it brings a sigh of relief to many new mothers. He said as a municipality they are willing to support the programme by spreading the word in various communities.

### Msunduzi assists Ekujabuleni Children's Home

### By LULEKA NZAKWE and SINENHLANHLA KUBHEKA

NELSON Mandela once said, "It is in your hands to make our world a better one for all." Msunduzi Municipality Mayor Councillor Themba Njilo alongside his deputy Thobani Zuma visited schools and children home around Msunduzi to assist them with their daily operations.

The Mayor started the day by visiting Ekujabuleni Children's Home along with a team from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The Mayor donated seeds, garden materials and cleaning material. Thereafter, the Mayor went to visit Sbongamandla Primary School where he donated a water tank, gardening and cleaning materials. The Mayor was accompanied on this tour by Mr Themba Ndlovu, owner of Cubana Exclusive Lounge, who also donated to the school a variety of fruits, cleaning materials, and toilet paper.

The Themba Njilo Foundation was also present to assess the site the Foundation intends to fund for the construction of a playing ground.

Sbongamandla Primary school principal Mrs Shezi, was very thankful for the donations. "Mr Njilo is very helpful as a lot has been done by him for this school, even before he was a Mayor. I would like to say keep up the great impact on the children, we do appreciate it. We thank you and Mr Ndlovu for your donations", she said.

The Mayor spoke about the importance of the day and what Nelson Mandela stood for. He said, "It is a joyous day as we are celebrating the birth of our former President Nelson Mandela. He would always say, 'have a great impact on people and change lives of people next to you', and that is what we are doing here."

He also encouraged the learners to take education seriously. He commented that, "Amongst you there are doctors, nurses and policemen or policewomen. In order to achieve your desired goals, you need education and confidence."

The Mayor proceeded to hand over the gardening material, learning material and a tank to school governing body led by the Chairperson, Xolani Ngongoma who also expressed gratitude by saying, "We thank you Mr Themba Njilo and Mr Ndlovu for visiting us and for all your donations to our school. Mr Mayor you are very helpful, we have seen your support shown to schools as you funded the construction of a swimming pool in Mthethomusha Primary School which is the only school with a pool in Edendale.

"However, we would like your assistance on the issue of foreign children with no birth certificates as they cannot get stationary as stipulated by Department of Education. This creates a problem for the school, and we would like the Mayor to assist us by addressing the issue with the Departments of Home Affairs and Social development. We thank you again for your continuous support."

#### IMPORTANT NUMBERS - ANTI CORRUPTION 0801 000545 FAX 0800 007788

## **Children and needy benefit on Mandela Day**



Premier Sihle Zikalala and Mayor Themba Njilo at Sunlit Garden Orphanage delivering blankets, uniforms and goodies to the kids (Photos: Qhelani Msweli/Igunundu Press)

#### **By QHELANI MSWELI**

WAZULU-NATAL Premier Sihle Zikalala together with the Mayor of Msunduzi Municipality Councillor Themba Njilo brought smiles to the faces of

over 40 children of Sunlit Garden Orphanage when they delivered blankets, school uniforms and goodies like chips, sweets and biscuits.

Sunlit Garden, situated in Northdale, is in distress as orphanage's expenses exceed income. Premier Zikalala, Mayor Njilo and MEC for Finance, Ravi Pillay visited the orphanage as part of efforts to improve the lives of the affected children.

Sihle Zikalala addressing the children and the community said they chose the Sunlit Garden because former President Nelson Mandela invested a lot of time and money in the development of the lives of children. He said, "It was former President Nelson Mandela who built schools in rural areas. It was Nelson Mandela who travelled the length and breadth of the world fundraising for a number of initiatives to support children. When we are here we really believe that we are doing this in his honour."

He also said they know that there are several needs as they have been taken around and saw with their own eyes. He continued to state, "We noted all the things you need, I will mention a few; firstly, you need stationary for 2020, bags, uniform. Secondly, we also know you need things like a fridge, a stove, and a bore hole. We are making a commitment to come back and assist, we must contribute to the future of these children who are with us today. In these children sitting here, we have future leaders of this country. We have lawyers, doctors, nurses and innovators. We will make a meaningful contribution in shaping their future". Premier Zikalala also encouraged the kids to go to school as education is so important. The Chaiperson of Sunlit Garden, Dr Omesh Somaroo, thanked the delegation led by the KZN premier and Msunduzi Mayor for the contribution made to the home, by saying, "We thank the Premier for coming through and benefiting the children with the gifts they provided."

Earlier, Premier Zikalala laid a wreath in honour of the late statesman at the Howick capture site, in the Midlands. The wreath laying ceremony was aimed at remembering former President Nelson Mandela on what would have been his 101st birthday. The site is the exact place where Madiba was captured by the apartheid regime on the 5th of August in 1962 and the place has since become an international tourist attraction.

Thereafter, he went to deliver a keynote speech at the joint initiative of the Midlands Medical Centre (MMC) in partnership with the provincial and regional ANC leadership in making a difference at Jika Joe Informal Settlement down town.

In keeping with the adage, "charity begins at home", approximately 1000 needy community members received meals, health education, basic life support training and health screening as part of the initiative. Nobuhle Nene who lives at Jika Joe Informal settlement was very happy for the assistance received through this initiative for the youth in the area.

Speaking to MSUNDUZI NEWS, she said, "As we celebrate the Nelson Mandela Day, we are grateful for the opportunity afforded to us by government as we received basic life supports skills, this will help advance our skills. We thank the Mayor, Premier and Midlands Medical Centre." These initiatives were highly appreciated as they go a long way in improving the lives of the people, especially children and the needy.

### Librarians and doctors help Slangspruit community

#### **By XOLISWA MKHIZE**

In celebration of the world icon, Nelson Mandela on his birthday, Slangspruit staff partnered with Dr Nosipho Dongwe from Luminjalo Medical Centre and Dr Ashaylan Vather from Edendale Hospital to donate food parcels to impoverished families in Slangspruit.

The staff from the library identified 3 very needy families from within the ward were to benefit from 67 minutes initiative. The Gambu, Mazibuko and Mjwaha families received food groceries which were sponsored by Drs Dongwe and Vather.

Mbalenhle Mobile Medical staff also joined the initiative to do screening for diabetes and high blood pressure on the people who visited. Dr Dongwe from the Luminjalo Medical Centre also promised to offer some services for free for the families beyond the initiative, "You can come to my practice if you have any enquiries pertaining to any sickness and if you are struggling with



Slangspruit Library staff presenting gifts to residents (Photos: Supplied)

your pension and you need a motivational letter to submit to South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) I will do it for free if one is really in need", said Dr Dongwe.

Thembani Langa from Msunduzi Library services said that the library offers more than just books as they have other programmes to empower the community, "People often think that the library is only for certain people or educated people only but that is not true. The library offers many other programmes that are useful to the people", said Themba Langa.

Ward Councillor Sibongile Mncwangu thanked the library staff for noticing the needs of the community and also mentioned that she wished that they could continue doing so even next year, "To the library staff, Dr Dongwe, Dr Vather and Mbalehle Mobile clinic staff thank you for this initiative and we are grateful for your support. This was a very heart-warming thing to do and a very huge success, thanks to all the people present who made it all possible to happen", said Mncwangu.

#### IMPORTANT NUMBERS - FIRE AND RESCUE 080 00033911

## Residents urged to pay for services or register for indigent policy

ON a mission to collect outstanding consumer debts from the city's runaway debtors, the municipality will embark on an aggressive debt collection campaign which will go hand in hand with door-to-door registrations of indigent policy beneficiaries.

While the campaign will be aimed at improving the city's revenue, it will also provide opportunities for indigent households to register for free services. As it stands, the city is owed more than R3 billion by consumers of city services. Of this amount, R2.5 billion is owed by households and R520 million is owed by businesses.

Addressing the revenue issue at a full council meeting, councillors felt that it would be a necessary exercise to visit different communities in order to encourage them to pay for services.

Acting Municipal Manager Neli Ngcobo said the other intention is to reach out to unregistered indigent beneficiaries because by not being registered they are also impacting unnecessarily on the debtor's book.

From having about 20 000 registered indigent policy beneficiaries in the past to having about 5 000 registered indigent policy beneficiaries now is also a loss for the municipality as it also loses on the equitable share from National Treasury to which local government is entitled to. This share assists municipalities and councils with limited resources to provide basic services to poor households.

The indigent policy was introduced by the municipality in 2012 to bring relief to those households who are not able to pay for basic services. This is particularly the case with pensioners, the unemployed and child headed households.

It is also aimed at closing the gap between the indigent and non-indigent citizens of Msunduzi municipality through targeted assistance, with free allocations of electricity, water and other services.

#### Who can apply?

- Applicants with a total household income that does not exceed the amount approved by council from time to time.
- The applicant should be a South African citizen and must not be the registered owner of more than one property.
- Resident of Msunduzi and must have a
- registered account with the municipality. The requirement to be an account holder does not apply to households in informal settlements or rural areas where no accounts are rendered.
- Recognised refugees must provide proof of status
- Application forms to be completed annually
- Applicants are subject to verification processes using all information and systems at the disposal of the municipality.

#### Benefits

- 6kl of Free water.
- 70kWh of electricity
- 100% of domestic refuse removal tariff for one service point per month.
- 100% of scale domestic charge for sewerage for one service point per month. 100% of the domestic unmetered
- water tariff for non- metered consumers

### THE MSUNDUZI

#### **TENDER NOTICE**

CONTRACT NO.SCM 3 OF 2019/2020

#### THE APPOINTMENT OF A PANEL OF SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR REPAIRTS TO ACCIDENT DAMAGED VEHICLES AND THE REPLACEMENT OF AUTOMOTIVE GLASS TO ACCIDENT DAMAGED VEHICLES IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified and experienced Service Providers to for repairs to accident damaged vehicles and the replacement of automotive glass to accident damaged vehicles and the replacement of automotive glass to accident damaged vehicles. Only tenderers with B-BBEE status level 1 and 2 will be considered. Tender documents will be available to tenderers from 14h30 on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Tender documents can be downloaded and printed at the tenderer's cost from the National Treasury e-Tender Publication Portal on <u>www.etenders.gov.za</u>.

Printed copies of the tender documents shall also be available from the Supply Chain Management Unit Offices, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, A S Chetty Centre, 333 Church Street, Pietermaritzburg, at a non-refundable tender deposit fee of **R 217.35 (including VAT)** for each document drawn. Only cash, bank guaranteed cheques or EFT payments will be accepted. A copy of the Tender Deposit Receipt must be attached to the tender document (if purchased at the Municipality).

For any technical related enquiries, contact **Ms.D Anthony**(Asset controller) on Telephone No. 033 392 3751 or e-mail address: <u>dhevika.anthony@msunduzi.gov.za</u>. For any procurement related enquiries, contact **Mrs. Mellissa Nero** (Supply Chain Management Unit) on direct Telephone No. 033 392 3018 or e-mail address : <u>mellissa.nero @msunduzi.gov.za</u>.

A compulsory Tender Briefing Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 14th August 2019, in the Boardroom , 10<sup>th</sup> floor, Professor Nyembezi Building, 341 Church Street, Pietermaritzburg, commencing promptly at 10h00. Tenderers arriving at the meeting after the stipulated starting time above will be disqualified. Further, all Tenderers attending the meeting must be in possession of a complete tender document failing which the Tenderer shall be disqualified. Tenderers producing only the Tender Briefing Certificate at the meeting will not be considered. Only one representative per Company or Consortium will be allowed to attend the above meeting. No person will be allowed to represent more than one Company at the meeting.

Tenders contained in sealed envelopes and marked with "SCM 3 of 2019/2020" and the Contract Description must be placed in the Tender Box located in the Foyer, Ground Floor, City Hall, 169 Chief Albert Luthuli Street (formerly Commercial Road), Pietermaritzburg, 3201, not later than 12 h 00 on Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> August 2019, when they will be publicly opened. Only tenders placed in the Tender Box shall be accepted.

Tender Validity Period: Four (4) months commencing from the closing date of tender.

**Tender Adjudication/Evaluation Criteria**: The tender shall be evaluated on 80/20 Preference Point System in accordance with the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2017, issued in terms of section 5 of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, Act No. 5 of 2000.

The Msunduzi Municipality does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender and reserves the right to accept the whole or any part of a tender. Each tenderer will be informed of the tender result. The Msunduzi Municipality expects businesses within the Pietermaritzburg and Midlands Region to support its contract and BEE/SMME initiatives.

MS.NELSIWE NGCOBO (ACTING CITY MANAGER)



#### **TENDER NOTICE**

CONTRACT NO. SCM 2 OF 2019/2020

#### CALL FOR PROPOSALS TO SUPPLY A CALL CENTRE & DEBT COLLECTION MANAGEMENT SOLUTION

Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified and experienced Service Providers to supply a call centre and debt collection management solution. Only tenderers with B-BBEE status level 1 and 2 will be considered. Tender documents will be available to tenderers from 14h30 on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Tender documents can be downloaded and printed at the tenderer's cost from the National Treasury e-Tender Publication Portal on <u>www.etenders.gov.za</u>.

Printed copies of the tender documents shall also be available from the Supply Chain Management Unit Offices, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, A S Chetty Centre, 333 Church Street, Pietermaritzburg, at a non-refundable tender deposit fee of **R 217.35 (including VAT)** for each document drawn. Only cash, bank guaranteed cheques or EFT payments will be accepted. A copy of the Tender Deposit Receipt must be attached to the tender document (if purchased at the Municipality).

For any technical related enquiries, contact **Mr. M Hoskins**.(Revenue Department) on Telephone No. 033 392 2405 or e-mail address: marlon.hoskins@msunduzi.gov.za.For any procurement related enquiries, contact **Mrs. Mellissa Nero** (Supply Chain Management Unit) on direct Telephone No. 033 392 3018 or e-mail address : mellissa.nero @msunduzi.gov.za\_

A compulsory Tender Briefing Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019, in the Supply Chain Management Boardroom, , 5<sup>th</sup> floor, 333 Church Street, Pietermaritzburg, commencing promptly at 10h00. Tenderers arriving at the meeting after the stipulated starting time above will be disqualified. Further, all Tenderers attending the meeting must be in possession of a complete tender document failing which the Tenderer shall be disqualified. Tenderers producing only the Tender Briefing Certificate at the meeting will not be considered. Only one representative per Company or Consortium will be allowed to attend the above meeting. No person will be allowed to represent more than one Company at the meeting.

Tenders contained in sealed envelopes and marked with "SCM 2 of 2019/2020" and the Contract Description must be placed in the Tender Box located in the Foyer, Ground Floor, City Hall, 169 Chief Albert Luthuli Street (formerly Commercial Road), Pietermaritzburg, 3201, not later than 12 h 00 on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> August 2019, when they will be publicly opened. Only tenders placed in the Tender Box shall be accepted.

Tender Validity Period: Four (4) months commencing from the closing date of tender.

Tender Adjudication/Evaluation Criteria: The tender shall be evaluated on a Two Stage Evaluation System – Stage One: Functionality and Stage Two: 80/20 Preference Point System in accordance with the Preferential Procurement Regulations 2017, issued in terms of section 5 of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, Act No. 5 of 2000. The Functionality for Stage One shall be evaluated on the following criteria:

The Functionality for stage one shall be evaluated on the following criteria:

No.	Evaluation Criteria	Maximum Points
1	Company Track Record – (50 points)	
1(a)	Experience in SAP Implementation and Support in the Public Sector with specific reference to SAP IS-U. Written 5 references are re- quired specifying the period and the work undertaken during the period. Five or More = 25, Two to Three = 15, one = 5 and none = 0.	25 Points
1(b)	Experience in SAP ISU integration. Three or more examples = 25; one to two = 15 points.	25 points
2	Technical Requirements – (50 points)	
2(a)	Implementation Approach and Methodology Good = 25, Fair = 15 and poor = 5.	25 Points
2(b)	Resource Plan (show at least the following capacity Development, integration and ISU) (ISU and PI certified = 25, one resource certified in ISU/PI = 5, none = 0)	25 Points
Total Functionality Points		100 Points
Threshold to Qualify for Stage Two		

The Msunduzi Municipality does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender and reserves the right to accept the whole or any part of a tender. Each tenderer will be informed of the tender result. The Msunduzi Municipality expects businesses within the Pietermaritzburg and Midlands Region to support its contract and BEE/SMME initiatives.

#### MS.NELSIWE NGCOBO (ACTING CITY MANAGER)



#### **TENDER NOTICE**

CONTRACT NO. SCM 1 OF 2019/2020

#### PROPOSAL CALL FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS TO PROVIDE A MOBILE METER READING APPLICATION SUITABLE FOR ELECTRICITY AND WATER METER READINGS

Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified and experienced Service Providers to provide a mobile meter reading application suitable for Electricity and water meter readings. Only tenderers with B-BBEE status level 1 and 2 will be considered. Tender documents will be available to tenderers from 14h30 on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Tender documents can be downloaded and printed at the tenderer's cost from the National Treasury e-Tender Publication Portal on <u>www.etenders.gov.za</u>.

Printed copies of the tender documents shall also be available from the Supply Chain Management Unit Offices, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, A S Chetty Centre, 333 Church Street, Pietermaritzburg, at a non-refundable tender deposit fee of **R 217.35 (including VAT)** for each document drawn. Only cash, bank guaranteed cheques or EFT payments will be accepted. A copy of the Tender Deposit Receipt must be attached to the tender document (if purchased at the Municipality).

For any technical related enquiries, contact **Mr. M Hoskins**.(Revenue Department) on Telephone No. 033 392 2405 or e-mail address: marlon.hoskins@msunduzi.gov.za\_For any procurement related enquiries, contact **Mrs. Mellissa Nero** (Supply Chain Management Unit) on direct Telephone No. 033 392 3018 or e-mail address : mellissa.nero @msunduzi.gov.za\_

A compulsory Tender Briefing Meeting will be held on Thursday, 08<sup>th</sup> August 2019, in the Supply Chain Management Boardroom, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, 333 Church Street, Pietermaritzburg, commencing promptly at 10h00. Tenderers arriving at the meeting after the stipulated starting time above will be disqualified. Further, all Tenderers attending the meeting must be in possession of a complete tender document failing which the Tenderer shall be disqualified. Tenderers producing only the Tender Briefing Certificate at the meeting will not be considered. Only one representative per Company or Consortium will be allowed to attend the above meeting. No person will be allowed to represent more than one Company at the meeting.

Tenders contained in sealed envelopes and marked with "SCM 1 of 2019/2020" and the Contract Description must be placed in the Tender Box located in the Foyer, Ground Floor, City Hall, 169 Chief Albert Luthuli Street (formerly Commercial Road), Pietermaritzburg, 3201, not later than 12 h 00 on Thursday, 29" August 2019, when they will be publicly opened. Only tenders placed in the Tender Box shall be accepted.

Tender Validity Period: Four (4) months commencing from the closing date of tender.

Tender Adjudication/Evaluation Criteria: The tender shall be evaluated on a Two Stage Evaluation System – Stage One: Functionality and Stage Two: 80/20 Preference Point System in accordance with the Preferential Procurement Regulations 2017, issued in terms of section 5 of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, Act No. 5 of 2000. The Functionality for Stage One shall be evaluated on the following criteria:

The Functionality for stage one shall be evaluated on the following criteria:

No.	Evaluation Criteria	Maximum Points
1	Company Track Record – (50 points)	
1(a)	Experience in SAP Implementation and Support in the Public Sector with specific reference to SAP IS-U. Written 5 references are re- quired specifying the period and the work undertaken during the period. Five or More = 25, Two to Three = 15, one = 5 and none = 0.	25 Points
1(b)	Experience in SAP ISU integration. Three or more examples = 25; one to two = 15 points.	25 points
2	Technical Requirements – (50 points)	
2(a)	Demonstration of the Meter Reading Application. Digital Demonstration = 25, Graphical Demonstration = 15 and No Demonstration= 0.	25 Points
2(b)	Implementation Approach and Methodology Good = 15, Fair = 10 and poor = 0.	15 Points
2(c)	Resource Plan (show at least the following capacity Development, integration and ISU) (ISU and PI certified = 10, one resource certified in ISU/PI = 5, none = 0)	10 Points
Total Functionality Points		100 Points
Threshold	i to Qualify for Stage Two	80% (80 Points)

The Msunduzi Municipality does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender and reserves the right to accept the whole or any part of a tender. Each tenderer will be informed of the tender result. The Msunduzi Municipality expects businesses within the Pietermaritzburg and Midlands Region to support its contract and BEE/SMME initiatives.

#### MS.NELSIWE NGCOBO (ACTING CITY MANAGER)



#### **ISAZISO SOMPHAKATHI** KUBIZWA BONKE ABANTU BAZOBONA IROLL YOKUCWANINGWA FUTHI KUFAKWE NEZIMPIKISO

Isaziso sifakwe ngokwesigaba 49(1)(a)(i) kumele sifundwe ndawonye nesigaba 78(2) se-Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Amendements Act, 2014 (Act No. 29 of 2014), lapha kubizwa njenge "Act" iroll yokucwaningwa kanyaka 2019/20 ivuliwe ukuthi ungayibona kuzoqala ngomhlaka-**1 August 2019 kuya ku-30 August 2019.** 

Iroll ungaphinde uyithole kwinzululwazi yakwamasipala ethi **www.msunduzi.gov.za**. Iroll yokucwaninga ingabonwa ngezikhathi zomsebenzi kusukela ku-**1 August kuya ku-30 August** 2019 kuleli hhovisi likaMasipala elilandelayo, 4th Floor, Endaweni yabacwaningi-Professor Nyembezi Centre, 341 Church Street.

Isimemo senziwe ngokwesigaba 49(1)(a)(ii) se-Act esithi noma umuphi umnikazi wendlu ongavumelani nemali efakelwe indlu yakhe angafaka impikiso kumphathi wakwa masipala mayelana nongavumelani nakho noma umuzi wakho ungawutholi kwiroll konke lokhu kumele ukwenze maphakathi kwezikhathi ezishiwo ngaphezulu.

Ukulalela kudonswa kakhulu kwisigaba 50(2) se act, impikiso kumele ibe mayelana nendlu eyodwa hhayi nge-roll iyonke. Amafomu okufaka impikiso ungawathola emahhovisini akamasipala abhalwe ngaphezulu, noma kwinzululwazi kamasipala **www.msunduzi.gov.za**.

lfomu egcwalisiwe kumele uyihambise ehhovisini kaMasipala elibhalwe ngaphezulu lingakashayi ihora lesine ntambama 16h00 ngomhlaka 30 August 2019.

Ngemibuzo ningaxhumana nehhovisi lakwa Valuation ku 033 392 2686/2869/2173/2274/2279/2455

Ms. Nelisiwe Ngcobo Municipal Manager (A)

### THE MSUNDUZI

#### TENDER NOTICE

SUPPLY AND SERVICES CONTRACT No. 29 OF 2019: MECHANICAL MAINTENANCE AND REFURBISHMENT CONTRACT; SECTION A: CBD AREA; SECTION B: NORTHERN AREA; SECTION C: GREATER EDENDALE AREA AND VULINDLELA

Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified and experienced Service Providers for the provision of mechanical maintenance and refurbishment at CBD, Northern area, Greater Edendale area and Vulindlela. To have a CIDB grading of 3ME or higher.

Tender documents will be available to tenderers from **14h30** on **Friday**, **19th July 2019**. Tender documents can be downloaded and printed at the tenderer's cost from the National Treasury e-Tender Publication Portal on www. etenders.gov.za.

Printed copies of the tender documents shall also be available from the Supply Chain Management Unit Offices, 5th Floor, A S Chetty Centre, 333 Church Street, Pietermaritzburg, at a non-refundable tender deposit fee of R512.90 (including VAT) for each document drawn. Only cash, bank guaranteed cheques or EFT payments will be accepted. A copy of the Tender Deposit Receipt must be attached to the tender document (if purchased at the Municipality).

For any technical related enquiries, please contact **Mr. Ntuthuko Phungula** (Building Unit) on Telephone No. 033 – 392 2170 or e-mail address: nthuthuko.phungula@msunduzi.gov.za.

For any procurement related enquiries, please contact **Mrs Mellissa Nero** (Supply Chain Management Unit) on direct Telephone No. 033 – 392 3018 or e-mail address: mellissa.nero @msunduzi.gov.za.

A compulsory Tender Briefing Meeting will be held on **Tuesday**, **30th July 2019**, in the Exco Boardroom , 4th floor, AS Chetty Building at 333 Church Street, Pietermaritzburg, commencing promptly at **10h00**. Tenderers arriving at the meeting after the stipulated starting time above will be disqualified. Further, all Tenderers attending the meeting must be in possession of a complete tender document failing which the Tenderer shall be disqualified. Tenderers producing only the Tender Briefing Certificate at the meeting will not be considered. Only one representative per Company or Consortium will be allowed to attend the above meeting. No person will be allowed to represent more than one Company at the meeting.

Tenders contained in sealed envelopes and marked with "Supply and Services Contract No. 29 of 2019" must be placed in the Tender Box located in the Foyer, Ground Floor, City Hall, 169 Chief Albert Luthuli Street (formerly Commercial Road), Pietermaritzburg, 3201, not later than 12h00 on Friday, 23rd August 2019, when they will be publicly opened. Only tenders placed in the Tender Box shall be accepted.

Tender Validity Period: Four(4) months commencing from the closing date of tender.

**Tender Adjudication/Evaluation Criteria:** The tender shall be evaluated on a Two Stage Evaluation System – Stage One: Functionality and Stage Two: 80/20 Preference Point System in accordance with the Preferential Procurement Regulations 2017, issued in terms of section 5 of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, Act No. 5 of 2000. The Functionality for Stage One shall be evaluated on the following criteria:

	EVALUATION CRITERIA :				
No.	Description	Maximum Points			
-	No. of successfully completed projects/contracts related to installation/refurbishment/modification and maintenance of mechanical, air-conditioning, refrigeration and associated plants and a value of the project.	20 Points			
П.	Total number of years that the Site agent/Senior Technician/Engineer/ Team leader has in terms of similar work or experience in terms of this contract: Detailed Curriculum Vitae.	20 Points			
III.	Total number of vehicles owned by the Service Provider	10 Points			
IV.	Artisan qualified within the contracts	20 points			
Total Claimable Points		70 Points			
Threshold		70% (49 Points)			

The Msunduzi Municipality does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender and reserves the right to accept the whole or any part of a tender. Each tenderer will be informed of the tender result. The Mary during the tender to accept the tender to accept the tender to accept the tender tender.

Each tenderer will be informed of the tender result. The Msunduzi Municipality expects businesses within the Pietermaritzburg and Midlands Region to support its contract and BEE/SMME initiatives.

#### MS. NELSIWE NGCOBO (ACTING CITY MANAGER)



#### **PUBLIC NOTICE** CALLING FOR INSPECTION OF VALUATION ROLL AND LODGING OF OBJECTIONS

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 49 (1) (a) (i)/78(2) of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Amendments Act, 2014 (Act No. 29 of 2014), hereinafter referred to as the Act, that the supplementary valuation roll number 1 for the financial years 2019/20 is open for public inspection at the Msunduzi Municipality municipal offices or at website www.msunduzi.gov.za from the 1st of August 2019 to the 30th of August 2019.

An invitation is hereby made in terms of section 49(I)(a)(ii)/78(2) of the Act that any owner of a property or other person who so desires should lodge an objection with the municipal manager in respect of any matter reflected in, or omitted from, the supplementary valuation roll within the above-mentioned period.

Attention is specifically drawn to the fact that an objection must be in relation to a specific individual property and not against the supplementary valuation roll as such.

The form for the lodging of an objection is obtainable at the following address 341 Church Street Professor Nyembezi Centre or www.msunduzi.gov.za The completed forms must be returned to the following address, 341 Church Street Professor Nyembezi Centre by 16h00 on the 30th of August 2019.

For enquiries please contact the valuations Division on 033 392 2686/2869/2173/2274/2279/2455

Ms. Nelisiwe Ngcobo Municipal Manager (A)



#### **TENDER NOTICE**

CONTRACT No. SCM 60 OF 18/19

### SUPPLY, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF FURNITURE AND RELATED ITEMS FOR MSUNDUZI MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES

Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified and experienced Service Providers for the supply, delivery and installation of Furniture and related items for Msunduzi Municipal Libraries. **Furniture required must carry 85%minimum threshold for local content.** 

Tender documents will be available to tenderers from **14h30** on **Monday**, **22nd July 2019**. Tender documents can be downloaded and printed at the tenderer's cost from the National Treasury e-Tender Publication Portal on www.etenders.gov.za.

Printed copies of the tender documents shall also be available from the Supply Chain Management Unit Offices, 5th Floor, A S Chetty Centre, 333 Church Street, Pietermaritzburg, at a non-refundable tender deposit fee of **R 204.70** (including VAT) for each document drawn. Only cash, bank guaranteed cheques or EFT payments will be accepted. A copy of the Tender Deposit Receipt must be attached to the tender document (if purchased at the Municipality).

For any technical related enquiries, please contact **Ms Shanitha Bhim** (Librarian Management Team) on Telephone No. 033 – 392 2629 or e-mail address: shanitha.bhim@msunduzi.gov.za.

For any procurement related enquiries, please contact **Mrs Mellissa Nero** (Supply Chain Management Unit) on direct Telephone No. 033 – 392 3018 or e-mail address: mellissa.nero @msunduzi.gov.za.

Tenders contained in sealed envelopes and marked with "Contract No. SCM 60 of 18/19" must be placed in the Tender Box located in the Foyer, Ground Floor, City Hall, 169 Chief Albert Luthuli Street (formerly Commercial Road), Pietermaritzburg, 3201, not later than **12h00** on **Friday, 23rd August 2019**, when they will be publicly opened. Only tenders placed in the Tender Box shall be accepted.

Tender Validity Period: Four (4) months commencing from the closing date of tender.

**Tender Adjudication/Evaluation Criteria:** The tender shall be evaluated on a Two Stage Evaluation System – Stage One: Functionality and Stage Two: 80/20 Preference Point System in accordance with the Preferential Procurement Regulations 2017, issued in terms of section 5 of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, Act No. 5 of 2000. The Functionality for Stage One shall be evaluated on the following criteria:

EVALUATION CRITERIA :				
No.	Description	Maximum Points		
1.	Company's previous experience on the supply of items specified therein	20 Points		
Total Claimable Points		20 Points		
Threshold		50% (10Points)		

The Msunduzi Municipality does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender and reserves the right to accept the whole or any part of a tender.

Each tenderer will be informed of the tender result. The Msunduzi Municipality expects businesses within the Pietermaritzburg and Midlands Region to support its contract and BEE/SMME initiatives. MS. NELSIWE NGCOBO (ACTING CITY MANAGER)



# AmaZulu crowned champions

USuthu won the much-anticipated inaugural edition of Msunduzi Cup beating Bidvest Wits in the final



Mayor Themba Njilo celebrates with the Amazulu Team after they were crowned champions beating Bidvest Wits in the final (Photo: Msunduzi Cup)

#### **By QHELANI MSWELI**

N what was the first pre-season tournament in the province ever to feature exclusively Premier Soccer League (PSL) clubs, fans were offered an early glimpse of some of the new signings made by their clubs.

The tournament did not start well for Pietermaritzburg when the local team, Maritzburg United, lost 2-1 to AmaZulu, in a match where Coach Eric Tinkler, fielded several new signings and different combinations in his experimental squad.

Although Maritzburg United flew out of the blocks by scoring the first goal of the competition through Thabiso Kutumela in the 12th minute, AmaZulu, clawed their way back and levelled through their new signing, Lehlohonolo Majoro, a minute before half time. The Majoro goal lifted Cavin Johnson's men as they netted what proved to be the winner when Nhlanhla Vilakazi slotted in after 52nd minute.

The second semi-final was a much more tense affair with Wits fielding many of

their new acquisitions like Siyanda Zwane, Sameehg Doutie and Zitha Macheke. It was the new signing, Macheke, formerly of Chippa United, who headed in the winner in the 69th minute to sink a Golden Arrows, affectionately known as Abafana Bes'thende, securing Wits their passage to the final game.

The first goal of the final, which was played by Bidvest Wits and Spar AmaZulu, was scored by Talent Chawapihwa after 18th minute. Bongi Ntuli, of AmaZulu scored 18 minutes before final whistle. Although Terrence Dzvukamanja pulled a goal back for Wits, it proved to be too little too late as the match ended 2-1, with AmaZulu being crowned champions of the Inaugural Msunduzi Cup.

After the first match, Maritzburg United Chairman, Farook Kadodia said even though they lost in the semi-finals, it was a good exercise since they were able to test new players and trialists like Thamsanqa Sangweni, Daylon Classen and Yeboah Koffi from Ghana.

"The coach will make a final call regarding the players on trials", he said.

## Sweetwater Cricket Hub benefits from 'School in a Box'

#### **By QHELANI MSWELI**

KWAZULU-NATAL Inland Cricket Union rolled out a programme funded by Cricket South Africa (CSA) called 'School in a Box' to one of its Hubs, the Sweetwater Cricket Hub.

It is a programme that uses tablets that offer a child access to over 4000 lessons in English, Mathematics, science and computer coding from Primary to High school, as well as a Foundational Literacy Course for Foundation Phase learners. Each school in a box consists of a purpose-built metal trunk, internet router, server, USB chargers and 10 - 30 preconfigured tablets. A School in a Box can be operated offline with very little technical knowledge and no academic experience. These lessons will also be facilitated by a tutor that will be funded by CSA.

The School in a box programme was launched on Thursday 25 July 2019 in Sweetwater. This programme will ensure that cricketers affiliated to the Hub are being developed holistically. Different divisions of the Hub will have separate days to attend the extra lessons and be assisted where they are falling short. KZN Inland Cricket Union is one of the five Unions to have the programme launched in the 50 CSA Hubs in South Africa.

> KwaZulu-Natal Inland Cricket Union is extremely excited with such a project being launched in one of the most productive cricket Hubs in the Country

Yashveer Singh coaching manager at KZN Inland cricket Union speaking to Msunduzi News said they are very thankful to Cricket South Africa for this initiative. He stated that, "KwaZulu-Natal Inland Cricket Union is extremely excited with such a project being launched in one of the most productive cricket Hubs in the Country."

He continued by saying, "We would like to place on record our thanks and appreciation



(Left to right) Bhekithemba Jacha (Tutor), Nonhlahla Biyase (Sweetwater Primary School educator), Lungelo Ndlovu (Sweetwater Hub head coach) and Thulisile Magubane (Sweetwater Primary School educator)

to Cricket South Africa in affording our schools within that Hub with the privilege of assisting players who require extra assistance in their school studies. This will go a long way in ensuring the balance between sport and academics."