



THE BLM MOUTHPIECE

Your News. Your Eyes. Your Voice



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Our Vision

Bushbuckridge Local Municipality strives for developmental and prosperous life for all.

Our Mission

The municipality commits itself to provide affordable and sustainable services by enhancing community participation, through accountability, transparency and responsible governance.

Our Core Values

- + Transparency
- + Responsible Governance
- + Efficient Service Delivery



TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS



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Meet the BLM Communication Team

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Editor's Note



Communications Manager,
Mr. Aubrey Mnisi

I would like to welcome our high valued readers to the second edition of the year 2020 of the newsletter – an information dissemination platform which is utilised by the municipality to keep the members of the community informed about the latest service delivery developments.

In this edition, we have included stories about interventions undertaken by the municipality to help curb the spread of the Coronavirus and many more stories on the update of service delivery.

The municipality has been hard at work ensuring that water distressed areas have access to clean running water through the use of water tankers, Jojo

tanks and boreholes.

A huge chunk of the budget is being channelled to water and sanitation projects in an attempt to help contain the number of Covid-19 positive cases within the municipal areas of jurisdiction.

I urge members of the community to adhere to safety precaution measures such as washing hands regularly, wearing a mask when in public and keeping social distances.

We urge members of the community to continuously check the municipal social media accounts for recent and updated service delivery developments.

Happy reading.



@Bbr Municipality



Bushbuckridge Municipality



complaints@bushbuckridge.gov.za



www.bushbuckridge.gov.za

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SAFE**

PROTECT SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

COVID-19

Online Resource & News Portal
SAcoronavirus.co.za



health
Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Executive Mayor's Desk



Executive Mayor,
Cllr Sylvia Nxumalo

Following the announcement by the President, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa that our country shall implement the National Disaster Management Acts (National Lockdown due to the Coronavirus) in order to contain the spread thereof, it was clear that our people were in for big health and economic challenges. The lockdown regulations meant that our people were now limited to free movement including going to work with the exception of essential workers.

The Coronavirus lockdown affected everyone either health, economy, or otherwise however, our government pulled all strings to ensure that social and economic reliefs from

all levels are implemented. The African National Congress (ANC) led government during the early days of the lockdown, increased child grant, loans to bail-out big businesses were made available, small businesses were able to apply for financial relief and those that were unemployed were set to receive a grant for a certain period just to keep them afloat during the lockdown period.

Our government's lockdown intervention did not only include finance but socially means too - in the sense that food parcels were distributed to the needy through the Department of Social Development. The National Department of Water and Sanitation donated

water tankers through municipalities to the most vulnerable and water-scarce villages and townships.

The private sector also came on board by donating food parcels and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Our municipality led by myself as the Executive Mayor, Department of Health, various Taxi Associations and Stakeholders had to embark on a campaign meant to sanitize taxi ranks and taxis.

I was also given the opportunity to address a handful of commuters during the campaign and lockdown regulations were observed as the campaign made rounds within the Bushbuckridge municipal area of jurisdiction.

Let me thank all the Government Departments, the Ministers thereof and my counterparts around the country for taking time to lead in the fight against the spread of Covid19.

I also want to take this opportunity and thank every South African in particular, Bushbuckridge people for the sacrifices and efforts they made in heeding the President's call and ensuring that South Africa and Bushbuckridge is safe

from the rapid spread of the Covid-19.

The President announced South Africa's move to alert level three because of our efforts and behavioural patterns but more importantly to allow the economy to run again and save jobs, I urge you fellow South Africans particularly, Bushbuckridge to continue making us proud by adhering to the lockdown alert level three regulations. Together we can beat this and I know that as South Africans we have won many battles together and we will continue doing just that.

Lastly, I am very proud in the manner in which the people of Bushbuckridge have behaved since the lockdown and up to today, on the number of recorded cases as of 14 July 2020 they are 137 positive cases, 27 recoveries and four deaths.

I urge you my fellow brothers and sisters, our essential workers and everyone else to continue the efforts in alert level three as announced by the President and even beyond. 'Continue praying for South Africa and God bless her'.

The entire country remains at Level 3 to contain the spread of coronavirus

Level 3 restrictions remain in place

New measures to reduce infections:



Wearing masks in public places is mandatory
Employers, business owners and managers are legally obliged to ensure compliance



Taxis must have some windows open during all journeys
Taxis may have 100% occupancy on local trips and no more than 70% on long distance trips



Sale of alcohol is suspended
This is to prevent hospital capacity being overwhelmed during the peak of infections



Curfew in place between 9pm and 4a
This excludes permitted workers or for urgent medical assistance

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Municipal Manager's Desk



Municipal Manager,
Mrs Cynthia Nkuna

Let me take this opportunity and applaud the Local Covid-19 Command Council for the outstanding job done, since the President announced the National Lockdown. Our essential services employees and their counterparts from the District, Provincial and The national government worked tirelessly and are continuing to ensure that lives are saved.

Bushbuckridge Local Municipality (BLM) continues to strive for a better life for all by enhancing community participation in the affairs of government on all spheres of governance.

This approach saw the municipality being presented with an Unqualified Audit Outcome leaving the

municipality a step closer from achieving a Clean Audit Outcome.

Our Water Services Department has had to work around the clock to ensure that all water-scarce areas within Bushbuckridge have access to clean drinkable water.

This saw a number of Jojo tanks being donated by the National Department of Water and Sanitation, Kruger National Park and Nkomati Usuthu Water Catchment installed Jojo tanks in and around Bushbuckridge.

Municipal water tankers were also dispatched to certain villages and this was to ensure that the Coronavirus regulations were adhered to.

Coronavirus guidelines include social distancing, wearing a face mask when in public, hand sanitizing and washing hands with water and soap for at least 20 seconds.

The availability of water within Bushbuckridge meant that those who cannot afford hand sanitizers would use water and soap, this approach has worked a great deal and saw the number of infections registering just under three cases.

As the lockdown is eased and our country on alert level three from 1 June 2020, the Local Covid19 Command Council continues to monitor the developments within the municipal area of jurisdiction.

The municipality in partnership with all relevant stakeholders will continue to ensure that regulations under alert level three continue to be observed as they were on the other alert levels.

As the municipality, we are working around the clock to ensure that our employees return to work under safer conditions, this means that the municipality will ensure that all Covid-19 regulations will

be observed and adhered to. A number of economic activities have resumed operations and this means that municipal services are of utmost importance for these economic activities to operate in a new normal.

I urge members of the community to continue observing Covid-19 lockdown regulations and save lives, the easing of the lockdown regulations does not necessarily mean Covid-19 is over, but it is just to allow people and the economy to function.

As a local government, we will be pleased to see the numbers of Covid-19 infections not increasing under alert level three by observing lockdown regulations.

In conclusion, the Speaker, Executive Mayor and my Office are always open for any suggestions and compliments, we urge members of the community to either use our social media contact details, email or call us for services that need not personal visitation.

Please stay home and only go out for essential services.

Bushbuckridge Local Municipality Appoints ICT Manager

The municipality has appointed Mr Marvellous T. Mathebula as the new Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Manager following the sad and an unprecedented passing away of the former ICT Manager.

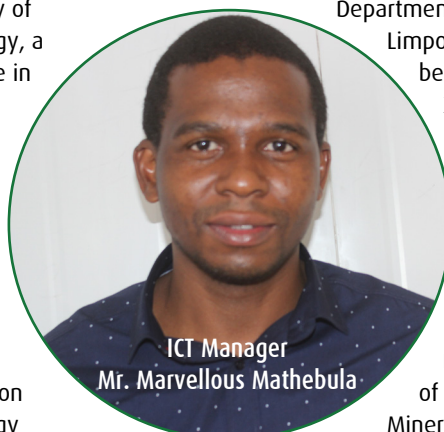
The new ICT Manager is expected to give the municipal ICT a new direction and address technological challenges facing the municipality.

Mr Mathebula has a National Diploma in Computer Studies and a B.Tech in Information

Studies (Support Services) both from the Tshwane University of Technology, a Certificate in

Information Technology Infrastructure Library from Torque IT. His

work experience includes an Internship program with the Department of CoGTA in Limpopo province between April 2012 and March 2013, IT



ICT Manager
Mr. Marvellous Mathebula

Technician with the Department of Energy and Minerals in the Eastern Cape between February 2014 and October

2015.

A Network Controller and ASD Server Administrator with the Department of Correctional Services in Gauteng province between November 2015 and May 2020.

The municipality would like to wish Mr Mathebula luck in his new role and trusts that he will be an asset to both the municipality and the people of Bushbuckridge.

Speaker's Blog: Campaigns on Curbing the Spread of Covid-19 Around Bushbuckridge

The easing of the national lockdown to alert level three has been implemented with the aim of saving jobs and allowing economic activities to run. The office of the Speaker and Executive Mayor embarked on several campaigns from sanitizing taxi ranks to checking schools readiness and donating sanitizers in and around Bushbuckridge.

This was done for the purposes of saving lives and ensuring that the instant spread of Covid-19 is curbed effectively and efficiently. Bushbuckridge has since recorded a minimal number of Covid-19 infections thus far. The implementation and amendments made to alert level three of the lockdown means there is now much more movement amongst the people. However, the government has advised on regulations that are meant

to continue standing under alert level three and members of the community are urged to observe these for their own safety.

The national lockdown has indeed brought about more troubles for our people, considering the fact that almost every economic activity was brought to a halt. Informal traders could not support their families because they could no longer make income. Movement of people was limited and social distancing had to be observed in every corner of the country.

Many people lost their jobs because companies could not keep up with the demand that came with a stalled economy, members of the community are still urged to be cautious on alert level three. On this alert level - a number of economic

activities have been eased and more people are getting back to work, employers and employees are encouraged to be more observant and responsible in adherence of Covid-19 regulations.

The municipality has noted with disappointment the disregard and ignorance of Covid-19 regulations under alert level three which has triggered an alarming increase on Covid-19 positive cases. Members of the community are reminded to be more cautious as the President advised that Covid-19 will be with us for quite some time and it is up to our behavioural patterns to end or continue living with it.

Commuters, consumers, employees and motorists are advised to ensure that they observe social distancing, sanitize their hands every

now and then, always put on their masks on when in public and safeguard their children at all costs. All students and educators are also encouraged to observe alert level three Covid-19 regulations at all costs and report any look-alike incident at their schools to the relevant authorities.

Finally, Bushbuckridge Local Municipality (BLM) through the office of the Speaker urged members of the public to report all irregular practices on government food parcel distributions and other forms of criminal activities. Covid-19 has taken many lives so far and members of the community are urged to be on their best and adherent behaviour to avoid forming part of the statistics.

COVID-19 PREVENTION ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Wash your hands with soap and water for **20 seconds** or use a 60% or more alcohol-based hand rub often **throughout the day**



WASH YOUR HANDS AT THESE **5 KEY MOMENTS** FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT:



1

Before going on public transport



2

After touching doors, handrails and money



3

After making contact with other people



4

Before touching your eyes, nose and mouth



5

When you arrive at your destination

BLM Reviews Budget On Fight Against Covid-19

On 29 May 2020 the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality (BLM) held a Council Sitting where they reviewed its budget and resolved to set aside 29 million rands to help in the fight against Covid-19. The municipality is striving for a better life for all and through community participation, accountability, and responsible governance, it commits itself to providing affordable and sustainable services.

As Covid-19 continues to show its ugly head and wreak havoc throughout the world in particular the poor African continent, BLM in fighting the spread of Covid-19 will build 48 new boreholes in and around Bushbuckridge at an estimated cost of R14, 357, 405. 00. 60 boreholes will be refurbished

at an estimated cost of R11, 044, 873. 71.

R3, 887, 481. 08 will be used for the refurbishment of sanitation infrastructure, the municipality is urging members of the community to continue protecting South Africa by observing alert level three (3) regulations. Keep a safe distance between you and those around you, always wear a mask and keep your hands sanitized and/or wash your hands with water and soap for at least 20 seconds.

Bushbuckridge is water-scarce municipality only relying on one source for water supply (Injaka Dam), Council believes that the reviewed budget will go a long way in saving as many lives as possible. It will also ensure that

members of the community avoid crowded areas as they won't have to travel long distances or gather around one source to draw water.

The Executive Mayor, Cllr Sylvia Nxumalo on behalf of the BLM Council and the Local Covid-19 Council is urging members of the community, particularly parents to look after their children as they are vulnerable. The Executive Mayor would further like to thank the community of Bushbuckridge and encourage them to continue with their good behaviour patterns under alert level three (3).

"I would also like to thank the Local Covid-19 Council for their outstanding work under these difficult Covid-19 conditions. I would like to urge

you to continue committing to saving Bushbuckridge thus saving South Africa, we also understand that working under these conditions is risky and dangerous but you, however, have risked it all to ensure that lives are saved.

"Lastly I would like to urge members of the community to safeguard against damage and theft of the-soon-to-be-drilled boreholes and those that will be refurbished. The municipality loses a fortune on fixing and refurbishing damaged or stolen water equipment, which is money that could be used for other basic service delivery priorities and developments," said the Executive Mayor.

Metropolitan Donates Masks To Help BLM Fight The Spread Of Coronavirus

Insurance company, Metropolitan donated 500 masks to the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality (BLM) with the aim to help in the fight against the spread of the Coronavirus, the masks were received by the Executive Mayor, Cllr Sylvia Nxumalo.

Speaking at the brief mask handover ceremony, the Executive Mayor alluded that the municipality welcomes the gesture and she called upon other businesses to follow the precedent set by Metropolitan to reduce the yoke on the municipal shoulders.

She alluded that the masks will be donated to the employees of the municipality. Mr Jiyane

from Metropolitan alluded that the insurance company has clients in Bushbuckridge and majority of which work for the municipality. He said that they saw it fit to also contribute to the welfare of their clients in

these trying and difficult times.

'We do not only want their money hence we felt the need to also look after them in this uncertain time of Covid-19. Metropolitan will in future

partner with the municipality to address socio-economic issues within the municipal area of jurisdiction,' concluded Mr Jiyane.



Jessica Khoza - Marketing Specialist, Cllr Sylvia Nxumalo - Executive Mayor, Cllr Ruth Raganya - Council Speaker, Cllr Leonard Malomane - Council Chief Whip - Cllr Laizer Lekhuleni - MMC EDPE, and Cllr Viole Nkuna - MMC Sports, Arts, Culture and Heritage

Local Covid-19 Council Embark On A Taxi Disinfection Campaign

The Executive Mayor of Bushbuckridge Local Municipality (BLM) Cllr Sylvia Nxumalo led a team of dedicated public servants from different departments: Health, Social Development, Traffic and Police, Council Speaker, Chief Whip, MMC Sylvia Mathebula, MMC Violet Nkuna, MMC Lindiwe Sithole, MMC Phineas Silowe, MMC Mokoena, Municipal Official taxi industry (Local, Provincial and National Representatives).

The campaign took place from 14-21 April 2020, the disinfection campaign kicked off at the Thulamahashe then proceeded to Hluvukani, Bushbuckridge, Marite, Mkhuhlu Plaza, Acornhoek and Lillydale. The Executive Mayor started off by an educational speech aimed at educating both the taxi operators and commuters about social distancing, hand sanitization and observing all other Covid-19 regulations.

Each and every taxi rank

received rubber gloves, masks and sanitizers, as these would help curb the spread of the Coronavirus at the ranks.

"Covid-19 regulations in the transportation industry must be observed even in the taxi industry, adhering to these regulations assists in the fight against the spread of the virus. Let us keep social distancing, wear our masks, and only leave our homes for groceries

and seeking medical help.

Bushbuckridge has until now recorded one Covid-19 case and as the Local Covid-19 Council we would like for Bushbuckridge not to report anymore other Covid-19 cases," said the Executive Mayor.

The municipality through the Public Transport Unit donated to every taxi rank a dustbin for which taxi operators and

commuters were advised to make use of in order to keep their places of operation clean and Covid-19 free.

The Local Covid-19 Council despatched a number of Traffic Police and the South African Police Service on the road after an outcry was reported that some Bakkies were ferrying commuters to various destinations during taxis non-operational hours.



Executive Mayor Cllr Sylvia Nxumalo providing civic education on Covid-19 on Commuters and Public Transport operators



Sanitisation of public transport at the taxi rank

BLM Waste Management Department Donates Bins to Hospitals and Clinics



Mr Levy Mokoena, Waste Management Manager during the delivery of the rubbish which were delivered to hospital and clinics

The Bushbuckridge Local Municipality (BLM) through the Waste Management Unit donated 39 rubbish bins to various hospitals and clinics around Bushbuckridge. The donation is seen as a milestone in the sense that all medical waste will be kept safe and this will help curb the spread of Covid-19. All patients visiting these institutions are encouraged to practice safety measures when entering and exiting the premises.

Hospitals and clinics are the most vulnerable areas for Covid-19 and non-compliance of Covid-19 regulations can result in serious consequences taking into account the patient's safety. Bushbuckridge is mostly rural and the municipality is optimistic that the donation will go a long way in the fight against Covid-19 and containing the rapid spread thereof.

Bushbuckridge has a number of challenges including water scarcity in many parts which could be a Covid-19 threat to

humanity, high illiteracy and unemployment also add to the risk of people contracting the coronavirus.

These challenges are a threat to fighting the Coronavirus pandemic and the municipality's rubbish bin donation could not have come at a better time.

The municipality has pulled all strings in support of members of the community, especially

those who are vulnerable which are the elderly, very young and sick. The municipality with the support of the national and provincial government have supplied Jojo water tankers, food parcels and other humanitarian aids to help fight the spread of Covid-19 and also eradicate poverty during the lockdown period for the unemployed.

BLM continues to urge members of the community

to observe all Covid-19 regulations and ensure that they use the elbow greeting, wear their masks at all times, adhere to social distancing wherever they are and wash their hands with running water and soap for at least 20 seconds.

The municipality also appreciates the commitment and willingness displayed by members of the community in the fight against Covid-19.



Waste management team delivering rubbish bins

Stakeholders Help Curb the Spread of Covid-19

The Department of Water and Sanitation donated a total of 45 Jojo Water Tankers, the Inkomati Usuthu Catchment Management Agency donated 10 and the Kruger National Park donating five, this gesture was to ensure that people have enough water for handwashing as a way of trying to minimize the spread of the Coronavirus.

The 60 Jojo water tankers were donated to most water-scarce areas of Bushbuckridge. With Bushbuckridge having recorded three cases of Covid-19, the intergovernmental relations gesture will go a long way in keeping Bushbuckridge free from Covid-19.

The donated Jojo tanks will be installed in various areas of Bushbuckridge. The municipality will resuscitate and drill new boreholes that will then pump water into these tankers.

The emergence of Covid-19 will cause devastating effects in areas like Bushbuckridge considering the state of affairs with regards to resources to it, the donation by these sector

departments has come at a time when Bushbuckridge mostly needed all the assistance.

It has also come at a time when Bushbuckridge has

its modality and appreciates the donations as they will go a long way, not only in the fight against Covid-19 but rather help with the consistent supply of water as a basic need.



SANDF pumping water into the newly installed Jojo water tanker

only recorded less than five Covid-19 cases.

The municipality divided the Jojo tanks allocation to water-scarce areas where Covid-19 would wreak havoc especially considering that most people cannot afford sanitizers, gloves and masks as a measure to prevent coming in contact with Covid19.

The municipality is considering

The municipality urges members of the community to safeguard these resources as they are the only afforded source of water during these difficult pandemic times. The municipality further condemns illegal connections of water by some members of the community, as this hampers the supply of water to the most secluded parts of Bushbuckridge.

The President of the country, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa announced that the country will move to Covid-19 alert level three and some of the Covid-19 lockdown regulations were eased from 01 June 2020.

This meant that companies and a number of employees were able to go back to work, members of the community are still urged to continue observing Covid-19 lockdown regulations.

The municipality would like to plea with members of the community whose areas have no access to water and did not benefit from the donated Jojo water tankers, to inform the municipality through the usage of local Councillors and Community Development Workers as well as other stakeholders. Covid-19 is highly contagious and very dangerous, it is necessary for communities to have access to clean drinkable water and wash their hands with soap and water and decrease the risk of catching the Coronavirus.

Municipality And PMC Attend To Ngwetsi Ntshuruge Water Predicament

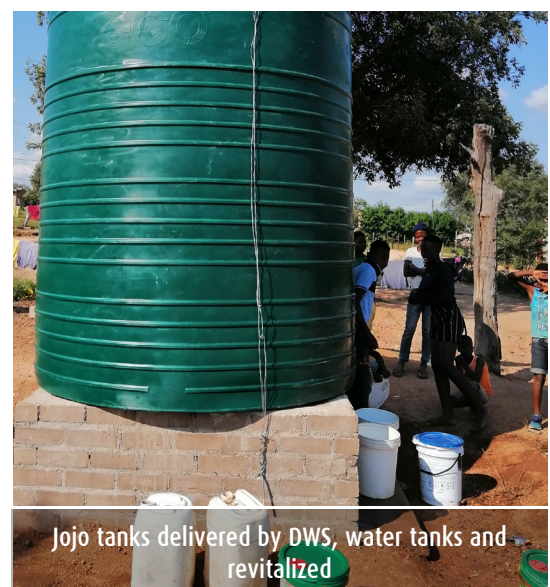
The municipality and the Phalaborwa Mining Company (PMC) have addressed the long-standing, Ngwetsi Ntshuruge lack of water predicament, this could be attributed to the municipality fixing the two damaged borehole engines and the PMC donating three Water Tankers for water storage purposes.

This process is a temporary solution while the municipality is working on a permanent solution to see the Injaka water reticulation project been completed around the village. The municipality is urging members of the community in particular Ngwetsi Ntshuruge to ensure the

safeguarding of these equipments as they serve particularly the most vulnerable with the supply of clean drinkable water.

The municipality is continuing with the multi-year water reticulation projects as per the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) calendar to ensure that the rest of Bushbuckridge is supplied with clean drinkable water in every household.

The municipality would also like to thank members of the community, in particular, this of Ngwetsi Ntshuruge - for their patience in waiting for water supply projects to be completed.



Jojo tanks delivered by DWS, water tanks and revitalized

Helping the Funeral Service Industry Prevent the Spread of Coronavirus



Representatives from funeral parlours who attended the Covid-19 Funeral workshop

The government's pride is its citizens, the President of the Republic of South Africa, Cyril Ramaphosa had declared a national state of disaster and banned large gathering to help contain the spread of coronavirus.

As guided by the following legislations:

- National Health Act, 2003 (61 of 2003) Regulation 363 of May 2013 Management of Human Remains.
- Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002.
- International Health Regulation 2005.
- Epidemic Preparedness and Response Plan for Covid-19.
- Environmental Health Guidelines for the Management of Human Remains.

The promotion of Access to Information Act 2 of 2000, PAIA gives effect to section 32 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, which states that everyone has the right to access information held by the state, as well as information held by another person. On the 25th of June 2020, Ehlanzeni District Municipality the Municipal Health Services and Environmental Management Section in collaboration

with Bushbuckridge Local Municipality (BLM) held a funeral undertakers Training at the Bushbuckridge municipality offices.

The main objective of this training was to help familiarise the funeral undertakers with environmental health guidelines for management of human remains to also provide proper guidance and advice to these service providers on the management of human remains during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Coronavirus Coronavirus is a respiratory virus which spreads primarily through droplets generated when an infected person coughs or sneezes or through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose.

Signs and Symptoms of the Coronavirus are:

- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Fever
- Body pains

Preventive measures to stop the spread of the Coronavirus

- Promotion of hand hygiene.

- Promote hygiene practices.
- Sanitization and disinfection.
- Cough and sneeze etiquette.
- Social distancing.
- Using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at all times when in the public.

Funeral undertakers will be inspected in terms of National Health Act 61 of 2003 (Regulation 363 May 2013 and Covid-19 Regulation). A legal Notice will be issued if there is non-compliance. Burial services will be visited for Covid-19 Regulation compliance. Health education and awareness will be conducted during the inspections of the facilities and

during burial services. Funeral undertakers can contact the area Environmental Health Practitioner for any clarity, said Mr. Makamu EDM, Environmental Health Practitioner (EHP).

The EHP during his presentation also outlined the following:

- Handling of human remains in the mortuary.
- Measures to follow when a person passes away at home.
- Types of body bags.
- PPE.
- Conveyance of human remains.
- Viewing of human remains.
- Environmental cleaning and control.
- Disposal of human remains.

It is important that society must take action to prevent further transmission, reduce the impacts of the outbreak and support control measures. Prevention is better than cure, together we can beat Covid-19.

The Department of Health and Home Affairs, BLM Economic Development Planning and Environment (Licensing Unit) and Community Services Directorates (Health and Wellness Unit) were part of this training as the custodians of the society.



Members of the public who attended the Covid-19 Funeral workshop

BLM Escalates Service Delivery With New Machinery

In an effort to boost its service delivery efforts, the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality has purchased one new heavy-duty grader, two TLB's and one mini portable road roller. The machines were delivered on Tuesday, the 23rd of June 2020.

The new machinery will be rotated among the eleven regional offices. This will be done to ensure that all internal streets and gravel roads are graded and also kept in good condition within the municipal area of jurisdiction.

The procurement of the machinery such as the mini portable road roller will also be used to fix and patch potholes in all municipal roads, thus improving the driving experience of motorists.

The portable mini Road roller will be used to compact soil, gravel and concrete in the revamping, it will as well be used in maintaining the existing roads.

The Executive Mayor welcomed the new purchased machinery with delight and she hopes this will assist in improving road infrastructure, especially the internal streets which have been washed away by the recent heavy rains of January 2020.



New yellow fleet machinery to speed up service delivery



New yellow fleet machinery to speed up service delivery



New yellow fleet machinery to speed up service delivery

Bushbuckridge Municipality And CCBSA Roll Out Youth Entrepreneurship Programme



A completed CCBSA sponsored top deck restaurant



A top deck restaurant been painted

At the beginning of 2020 Bushbuckridge Local Municipality (BLM) And Coca-Cola Beverages South Africa (CCBSA) kicked off, in a phased approach the rollout of the container businesses.

This comes as an initiative that originates from over 20 months ago, where BLM and CCBSA collaborated to bring a youth entrepreneurship program to the area.

The initiative combined theoretical and practical

training of young entrepreneurs to ensure the success of their own shops. It aimed to promote the development of self-driven young people, creating a point of access to the mainstream economy – not as job seekers but as job creators.

During 2019 local candidates received their training and had an opportunity to prove why they should be selected to receive the investment in their business.

The implementation timelines were significantly impacted by

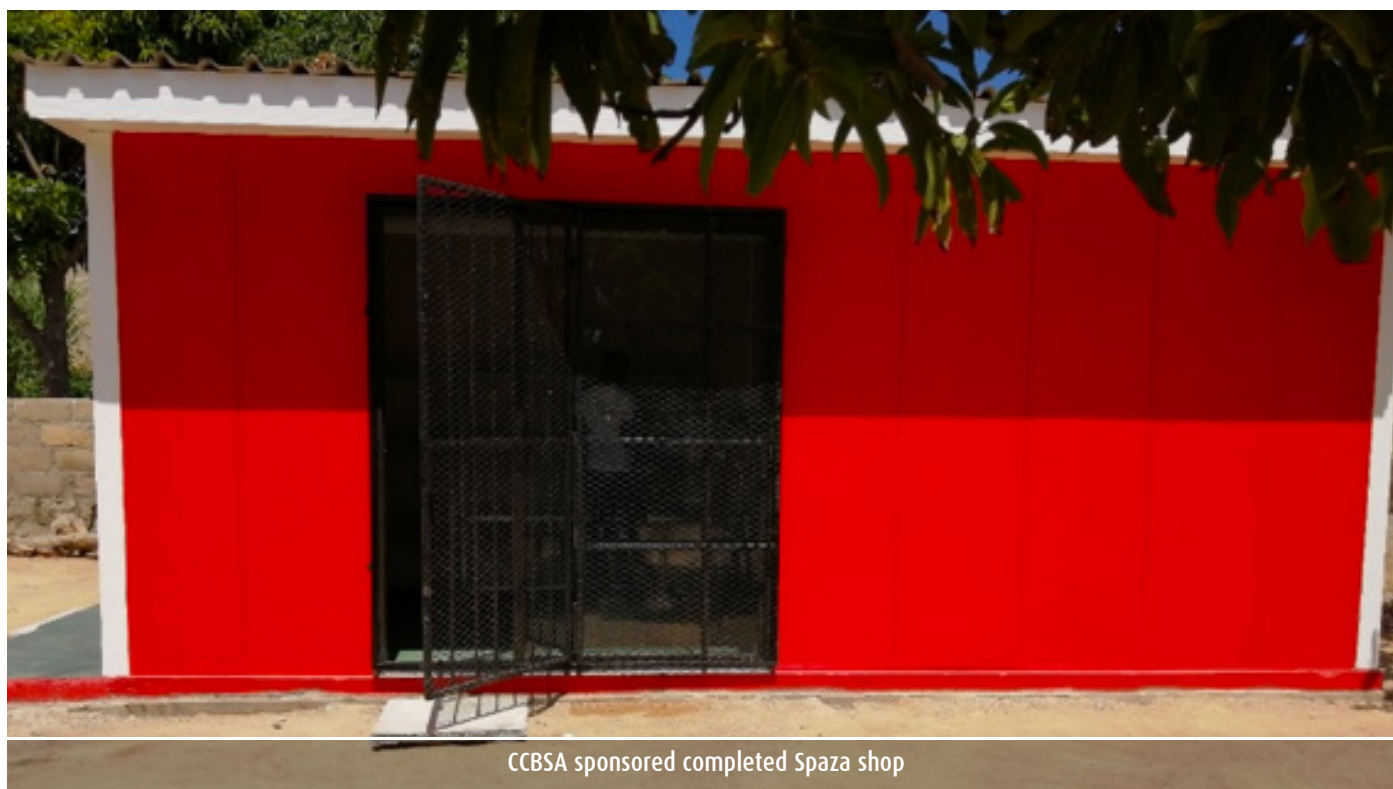
the Covid-19 restrictions but since the introduction of Level 3, they have been able to continue with the placement of the containers.

During the first phase, CCBSA delivered containers to 10 of the entrepreneurs, who have since opened for business. As part of the second phase, a further 10 containers will be delivered by mid-July 2020.

The collaboration will continue to roll out the remaining containers over the next few months.

They are pleased to confirm that the project continues to make use of several local businesses to erect these containers as part of our commitment to growing the local economy.

They urge the Bushbuckridge community to support the local youth-owned businesses to ensure their success. When local businesses grow, we can create employment opportunities within our community.



CCBSA sponsored completed Spaza shop

BLM To Better Attend To Emergencies With New Firetruck



Chief whip Cllr Leonard Malomane, Municipal Manager Mrs Cynthia Nkuna, Acting Director Community Service Mr Rickson Silinda and the service provider that delivered the fire truck

In an attempt to respond speedily to disasters and emergencies, the municipality is delighted to announce the delivery of a brand new state-of-the-art Firetruck. The truck can hold up to 5000 litres of water and 500 litres of foam. The addition of the new Firetruck will increase the municipal response capacity to cover the whole of

Bushbuckridge.

The brand new fire truck was received on behalf of the municipality by the Municipal Manager, Mrs Cynthia Nkuna; Chief Whip, Cllr Leonard Malomane and MMC for Arts and Culture, Cllr Basani Nkuna. Addressing the firefighters - the Municipal Manager pleaded with them to ensure

that the Firetruck is well taken care of and well serviced.

She told them that the truck is a property of the people of Bushbuckridge and it should serve them in the event of

emergencies and or disasters. The Municipal Manager believes that the delivery of the Firetruck will significantly improve the attendance of emergencies.



Delivery of the new fire truck

BLM Launches Back to School Readiness Campaign



Council Speaker Cllr Ruth Raganya, Executive Mayor Cllr Sylvia Nxumalo during the back to school readiness campaign

The Executive Mayor of Bushbuckridge Local Municipality (BLM) Cllr Sylvia Nxumalo flanked by Council Speaker Cllr Ruth Raganya, MMCs, Local Ward Councillors, and BLM staff with the support of Bohlabela District Education's various circuits heads, school principals and educators embarked on a Back to School Readiness Campaign.

The main objectives were to ensure that schools, educators and everybody else go back to Covid-19 free school premises and that all Covid-19 regulations are set in place and observed accordingly. This follows the announcement made by the Minister of Basic Education and approved by all parties in the education sector that only Grade 7 and 12 will be reporting back to school.

The campaign's first stop was Masana High School at Mafemani Township followed by Frank Maginyane High School at Ludlow Village. The Executive Mayor first had a briefing with the

schools' principals, schools management teams were flanked by the circuit heads wherein they were checking the readiness of schools and discussed the plans that would be put in place to continue with the education business in these trying times.

Circuit heads and school principals were grateful for the Bushbuckridge first citizen and her team's visit and that as a mother she was doing a good thing looking after her children. The Executive Mayor urged the learners to take all Covid-19 regulations into consideration at all costs especially hand washing and sanitizing, social distancing, and putting on their masks at all times.

The second stop was Khokhovela primary school where the Executive Mayor and her team were joined by the South African Defence Force who installed a new water tanker and standpipes for the school. They again demonstrated how to pour or pump water into a water

tanker then dispersed to the standpipes for accessibility and the safety of both the educators and learners.

Executive Mayor then visited Mphako primary school and shared ideas on how the school can be improved and keep learners safe. The Executive Mayor and her Team's last stop was the Church of the Nazarene at Orinocco where she addressed pensioners who were receiving their old age pension pay where she also gave every pensioner a bottle of a sanitizer.

The next and last day was Qokiso High School where she also had her team and addressed the management and the learners. All her visits came along with a presentation of challenges facing the schools, some of the challenges were resolved in her presence while others had to be referred to various sister government departments.

She, however, urged all schools

and learners to observe all the Covid-19 regulations at all times when at school and at home, announcing the stats of Covid-19 she highlighted that Bushbuckridge in the province had only three positive Covid-19 cases and that all have since recovered.

"I urge you to continue the great work you have by far displayed of ensuring that Bushbuckridge is Covid-19 free and let it be that way till the end of time." said the Executive Mayor.

The Department of Water and Sanitation representative in each and every school the Executive Mayor visited demonstrated a new way of how to thoroughly wash your hands with clean running water and soap in case one does not afford to buy a hand sanitizer. Given the scarcity of water in some areas in Bushbuckridge, she presented an innovative way of saving water while washing hands from a running water tap from home made innovation.

Water Services Contributing To The Fight Against Coronavirus



Water service team inspecting borehole

Water is life and while the Covid-19 pandemic continues to show its ugly head amongst communities, water is needed more than ever since the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Department of Health (DoH) advised the washing of hands with water and soap for at least 20 seconds.

The municipality despatched a team of experienced and hardworking technicians to the most water-scarce and vulnerable communities in order to help keep water consistently supplied, either through the resuscitation of damaged boreholes, municipal water tankers or connecting from the Injaka bulk water supply.

The municipality's water service technicians acted on information received from Councillors, CDW's, Members of the Community and other stakeholders.

Most areas in Bushbuckridge have no access to clean drinkable water and the

municipality is working around the clock through its

the water service technicians under Covid-19, they are hard

and they could not have been most needed than now, these local heroes and heroines have pulled all stops to try and save as many lives as possible around Bushbuckridge and beyond.

The municipality has made these technicians available for the people of Bushbuckridge and is urging members of the community to respect and protect them by adhering to Covid-19 regulations at all times.

The municipality appreciates these technicians and everyone else working during the Covid-19, you are sacrificing a lot in ensuring that Bushbuckridge, Mpumalanga and the whole of South Africa is safe.

The Executive Mayor, Cllr Sylvia Nxumalo on behalf of the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality (BLM) Council and the Local Covid-19 Council appreciates the commitment by these heroes and heroines.



Water service team inspecting borehole

Integrated Development Plan (IDP) to reticulate and supply water through the Injaka Bulk Water Project. The municipality entirely relies on boreholes and water tankers to supply water to the most water-scarce and vulnerable communities during the Covid-19 pandemic. Things have not been easy for

at work ensuring that the rest of Bushbuckridge receives clean drinkable water. In some instances, they had to use personal resources to get water supplied to the neediest people.

Water service technicians are regarded as essential workers

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Frank Maginyane High School Learners observing Covid-19 Social Distancing



Masana High School educator's being addressed on Covid-19 school readiness assesment



Khokhovela Grade 7 Learners attentively paying attention to the Executive Mayor's address