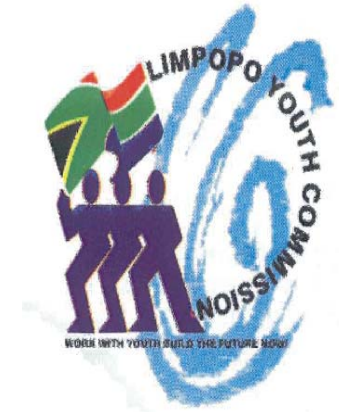




# LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



## **LIMPOPO YOUTH COMMISSION LAUNCHES YOUTH MONTH PROGRAMME**

This year marks the 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Soweto students' uprising, the event that exposed the brutality and thoughtlessness of the trigger-happy apartheid regime. Ironically, it is this brutality that worked to mobilize thousands of young people across the length and breadth of our country behind the struggle against white minority rule, the activities of June 16 1976 also assisted in mobilizing a sizable portion of the international community against the crime of apartheid. There can be no doubt that it was generations of young people who made a dream of a democratic South Africa a reality.

Since the democratic breakthrough in 1994, the government has worked tirelessly to address the issues and interest of young people. While much has been done since 1994, there can be no denying that much more still needs to be done. The Limpopo Youth Commission has been in the forefront of the struggle to better the lives of our young people.

The Commission has a series of memorial lectures throughout all five districts of Limpopo to educate our young people about the history and relevance of June 16. These lectures will be addressed by various speakers most of whom have a first hand experience of the activities of June 16.

The highlight of our June 16 month will be the Youth Day celebration; the object of this year's celebration will be to commemorate June 16 and to celebrate the gains of South Africa's young democracy and particularly its impact on the lives of our young people. This important event will take place on June 16 at the University of Venda stadium, at the Thulamela municipality in the district of vhembe.

The Youth Commission will also stage a Golf tournament as part of the endeavor to encourage youth participation in socio-economic development. Fifty young entrepreneurs will partake in this event. The Golf tournament will take place on the 18<sup>th</sup> June at the Euphoria Golf Estate, Naboomspruit.

The Youth Commission will also work with the Limpopo legislature to stage the annual Youth Parliament. The purpose of the Youth parliament is to mobilize young people to interact on issues that affect them on daily basis. The parliament will take place on June 12 at Tubatse, Sekhukhune district.

Together with VODACOM, youth commission, Umsobomvu youth fund and South African Youth Council have taken the initiative to fast track consultative processes towards the creation of a conducive environment for the implementation and acceleration of a provincial policy summit. The public and young people in particular are encouraged to sms their inputs on the number 32715 by typing 'youthcom' as the keyword. We are envisaging a process wherein ordinary young people

will inform the outcome of the policy summit. We are also going to lobby print and electronic media, community leaders, churches and NGO's to encourage young people to partake in these consultative processes through the province. The summit will take place from the 26-27<sup>th</sup> June at the Park Hotel in Mokopane. Purpose of the summit is to provide input on the youth development legislations at a provincial level and also pave a way forward for the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA).

The press conference marks the last youth month programme with our current commissioners and the welcome of the new premier, Mr Cassel Mathale. As we continue to advance youth development at a provincial level we would also like to welcome and acknowledge the new ministry which will have a special focus on young people however, noting that youth development can never be treated as a sectorial matter and that it cuts across all spheres of government and private sector. We are therefore calling upon all departments and private sector to work together with the youth commission in ensuring that as per our agreement these envisaged programmes become a reality.

Released by

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