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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Groblersdal Library Receives Generous Book Donation from Limpopo Premier

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMEN REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Groblersdal Library Manager, Ms Christa Steyn, expressed her delight at the surprise visit by Premier Mathabatha on Monday, September 04. She shared: "He requested to see me and offered to donate books that he has and doesn't see them in the library. We are overwhelmed that today, 05 September 2023, those books are here. It will be a lot of work cataloguing them but it is nice. Some of the books we don't have and the community will benefit a lot from them."

Limpopo Premier, Mr. Chupu Stanley Mathabatha, described the Groblersdal Library as the architecture of knowledge and heritage. After donating over 300 books that he has collected since becoming actively involved in the struggle in 1976, Premier Mathabatha said: "The kind of books I have donated are from history to business books from the likes of Richard Branson, JB Landbarke and others. Anybody, even those who want to study for a secondary school or doctoral studies, will be able to make use of these books to get information."

Premier Mathabatha's collection includes a wide range of titles, such as 'Shining the Searchlight Inwards' - Speeches and Articles by Letlapa Mphahlele, 'Fezile Dabi', 'Moses Mabhida', 'Albertina Sisulu' (all in the Learning African History - Freedom Fighters Series), 'Plato' Dialogues of Plato, 'Beloved' by Toni Morrison, Steve Jobs, Es'kia Mphahlele, and the Bible of King James Version. He said he read the Bible from Genesis to Revelations while incarcerated during the apartheid era.

Premier Mathabatha attributed his passion for reading to his parents during his formative years and reading clubs he belonged to whilst in high school. As he became politically active in his late teens, he delved into banned literature, enriching his mind with his fellow comrades like Thabang Makwetla and the late Ephraim Mogale. Former President Nelson Mandela further ignited his passion for reading and he sees that young people should

The generous book donation by Premier Mathabatha will undoubtedly enrich the Groblersdal Library's collection and provide valuable resources for the community. The library staff is excited to catalogue the books and make them accessible to all who seek knowledge and information.

ENDS/

Issued by the Limpopo Provincial Government

For media inquiries, please contact the Provincial Government Spokesperson, Mr. Ndavhe Ramakuela, on 082 200 5357/067 267 2063 or via email at RamakuelaN@premier.limpopo.gov.za.

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