



Northern Cape
Provincial Legislature

INSIDE Parli

VIGILANT ALWAYS FOR OUR PEOPLE



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INSIDE Parli



Hello Team NCPL,

Welcome to another edition of the Inside Parli newsletter! We're eager to make this space a true reflection of our collective spirit, and we need your help. If you have opinion pieces, milestones, unit updates, or any suggestions on how we can improve the newsletter, don't hesitate to share them. Your input is what keeps our newsletter vibrant and engaging!

Please send your content and ideas to **Ms. Mpho Merriman** at mmerriman@ncpleg.gov.za or **Ms. Gaopalelwe Moloko** at GMoloko@ncpleg.gov.za. Let's make the Inside Parli something we're all proud of!

Warm regards,
Editor, Inside Parli

N C P L I N T E R F A I T H S E S S I O N S



EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH FAITH: A LOOK INTO WOMEN'S MONTH INTERFAITH SESSIONS

BY GAOPALELWE MOLOKO

Throughout the month of August, the Northern Cape Provincial Legislature hosted prayer service sessions in the Ruth First Auditorium. In celebration of Women's month the sessions incorporated the theme "Empowered voices: celebrating women pastors for women's month" with the initiative being led by Diversity Practitioner, Ms Renata Kistoo, who chose to highlight the voices of female pastors throughout the month.

The series began with Pastor Grace Mbungi, who delivered an inspiring message from the Book of Judges. She shared the story of Jael, a woman who courageously defeated the oppressive commander Sisera, placing emphasis on the power of faith and prayer as tools to overcome life's challenges. Mbungi encouraged women to handle their spiritual strength like Jael's hammer and nail, transforming hardships adversity into triumphs.

MPL Meriam Kibi, Chairperson of Chairpersons, delivered an impactful and informative address on women reclaiming their roles as pillars in our society. She emphasized on the importance of women not turning a blind eye to societal ills and rather working on rebuilding our communities. She also highlighted women's natural born managerial traits and how they could use these traits to work through many aspects of their lives. She further reminded the congregation gathered there about the need for fellow women to support and encourage each other while also holding each other accountable.

Following this, Ms. Wezizwe Albany continued the series with a sermon centered on the theme of overcoming discouragement. Drawing from Nehemiah's experience of rebuilding Jerusalem's wall despite being mocked, she emphasized the resilience required to pursue God's purpose. Albany's message highlighted that even in the face of negativity, God's plan will prevail, and believers should remain steadfast in their faith, trusting that their efforts are aligned with divine will.

In the third session, Prophetess Charmaine Ramasedi expanded on the theme of growth through all types of challenges, drawing from Exodus 1:11-12. She explained that hardships often leads to spiritual growth, victory, and the realization of God's purpose. Ramasedi highlighted the power of unity and gracious speech, urging women to use their voices to challenge injustices and reshape societal norms. She concluded with a prayer for the rise of bold, influential women across all sectors of society.

The series concluded with Pastor Yolanda Grey, who focused on the importance of introspection across four key aspects of life: spiritual, psychological, physical, and financial. She urged those in attendance to reflect deeply on these areas and encouraged them to focus on Luke 5:31-32, which calls for repentance and renewal. Grey's session served as a powerful reminder of the need for personal growth and transformation through faith.







WOMEN'S DIALOGUES ACROSS THE NORTHERN CAPE: EMPOWERING VOICES AND TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

In celebration of Women's Month, the Northern Cape Provincial Legislature hosted a series of Women's Dialogues across the province under the theme "Empowering Women, Transforming Communities, and Creating Active Citizens." These events provided a platform for women to voice their concerns, discuss challenges, and propose solutions.

The series began in Lime Acres, ZFM District, led by Regional Liaison Officer (RLO) Mr. Ticci Zweni, the event had a dual focus which was to educate community members about the role and function of the Legislature while also addressing the critical issues facing the women in the region through dialogue. Mrs Irene Williams, Mayor of the Kgatelopele Local municipality opened this first session with a message of support and encouragement to all the women in attendance to make their voices heard. The programme was attended by the Secretary to the Legislature and supported by Research services.

**We as women, we
are burdened but
we do not speak out**

The second dialogue took place in the John Taolo Gaetsewe district at the Bothetheletse community hall led by Mr Janes Manhe, the RLO for JTG. The Speaker of Joe Morolong Local Municipality, Councillor Violet Jordan, delivered a powerful message. Jordan urged women to break the silence and speak out, stating, "Re le basadi re imetswe mme re palelwa go bua," which translates to "We as women, we are burdened but we do not speak out."

In Williston, women from Sutherland, Fraserburg, and Williston gathered to discuss critical issues such as gender equality, inclusivity, economic growth, and access to land and healthcare. This session was led by Namakwa RLO Mr. Rudi Louw, with support from research officers. Council member Cora Steenkamp opened the session, and Mr. Louw explained the role and functions of the Legislature. Intern Lee-Ann Cloete from the Namakwa district provided valuable insights, educating guests on the importance of equal access to land and healthcare.

The dialogues in Victoria West, led by Pixley ka Seme RLO Mr. Sandile Manene, brought the series to a powerful conclusion. Women engaged in meaningful conversations about breaking barriers and creating opportunities, showcasing their resilience and ability to thrive when given equal chances. These discussions emphasized the vital role women play as the backbone of the nation—strong, unbreakable, and powerful.

Through these dialogues, the Northern Cape Provincial Legislature demonstrated its commitment to empowering women and ensuring their voices are heard in the legislative process.





EMPOWERING LEADERSHIP: An Interview with Ms Nathalia Borchard



Background Journey:

Born outside the Northern Cape but raised in Kimberley since the age of two, Ms Nathalia Borchard has dedicated her life to public service.

Starting her career in Library Services at the Northern Cape Provincial Legislature in 1996, she has since held various positions and earned postgraduate degrees in Information Science and Public Management. Her journey to becoming the Acting Executive Manager responsible for Oversight and Public Participation is testament to her desire for new challenges and her extensive experience in legislative oversight.

Impactful Leadership:

Under her leadership, Ms Borchard has spearheaded significant improvements in the Legislature's support services. Noteworthy achievements include revising strategic frameworks for oversight, public participation, and communications; launching the redesigned NCPL website in July 2023; and initiating Standard Operating Procedures. Her commitment to efficiency is also reflected in the enhancement of the resolution tracking system and the development of a committee automation system.

The Role of Women in Public Engagement:

Ms Borchard strongly believes in the power of women to influence public education and communication strategies within the Legislature. She emphasizes the need for women in leadership to empower others, ensuring their voices resonate in governmental processes.

According to her, true change occurs when the majority of women actively participate and influence policies and laws.

.Milestones and Personal Achievements:

Balancing a demanding career, education, and family life, Ms Borchard takes pride in being a productive employee, a devoted wife, and a loving mother. Earning a Master's degree after completing a challenging thesis in 2013 stands out as a significant academic achievement. Her diverse roles within the Legislature, including leading Research and Information Services, Corporate Governance, and more, have all been milestones in her career.



"Women in leadership are best placed to empower other women... It is only once the voices of the majority of women resonate in the processes of government that we will see women influencing policies, strategies, and laws."

Overcoming Challenges:

In her multifaceted role, Ms Borchard faces challenges like competing priorities but navigates them with faith and resilience. She believes in the power of faith to overcome difficulties, drawing strength from Luke 1:7, which says, "With God, all things are possible." Her approach to leadership is holistic, incorporating physical activity, creative pursuits, and leisure to maintain balance.

Advice for Aspiring Women Leaders:

Nathalia encourages women to embrace challenges, both big and small, and to pursue continuous learning and growth. She advises against self-limitation and stresses the importance of faith, citing 2 Corinthians 3:5, "Our competence comes from God." Her message to women is to achieve their dreams without comparing themselves to others and to persist despite failures, knowing that God determines their steps (Proverbs 16:9)

Celebrating Women's Month:

Ms Borchard honours Women's Month by celebrating the women in her life, particularly on August 6th, the birthday of two special women to her. She urges women to keep pushing forward, as consistent efforts and achievements lead to positive outcomes over time.

Reflections on Women's Month

To Ms. Borchard, Women's Month is an opportunity to engage more deeply with women and to acknowledge their vital role as the backbone of families and communities. She believes that by educating and empowering women, we uplift entire families. Her role as an administrator is to ensure that the issues raised during Women's Month are effectively captured and addressed, contributing to the ongoing pursuit of gender equality.

EMPOWERING LEADERSHIP:

AN INTERVIEW WITH MS PEARL NTSIKO

Journey in Human Capital:

Ms. Pearl Funeka Ntsiko, currently serving as the Acting Executive Manager at the Northern Cape Provincial Legislature, brings with her 22 years of experience in Human Resources (HR). Her journey began in 2019 when she was appointed Manager of Human Capital at the Legislature. Previously, she has held leadership roles, including Acting Director of Corporate Services at Statistics South Africa in 2013 and Acting Chief Director of Corporate Services at the Department of Health in 2019. Her extensive experience in HR and Corporate Services naturally led to her current role, where she has been leading Corporate Services since 2021.

Overcoming Challenges in Leadership:

As a female leader in Human Capital, Ms Ntisko has faced challenges such as employee well-being, culture management, and employee engagement. She has introduced empowering sessions in the workplace, focusing on health, stress management, financial management, and diversity. These initiatives, along with wellness events, have helped address the challenges and promote a positive workplace culture.



Fostering an Inclusive Workplace Culture:

Ms Ntsiko has made significant efforts to ensure that the workplace is inclusive and supportive, particularly for women. She has organized events like a High Tea for the women of the institution, focusing on women's health, stress management, and empowerment. Additionally, she holds meetings with women and coordinates Women's Day celebrations to create a supportive environment for female employees.





"Creating a supportive environment for women is essential. Through events like our High Tea and Women's Day celebrations, I aim to foster inclusivity in our workplace."

The Unique Strengths Women Bring to HR:

In her view, women bring unique strengths to Human Capital, particularly their ability to understand and empathize with employees. This empathy helps in creating a more supportive and effective workplace.

Balancing Leadership and Life:

Balancing the demands of leadership with other aspects of life can be challenging, but Ms Ntsiko manages this by prioritizing, establishing boundaries, practicing self-care, delegating effectively, leading by example, and managing her time efficiently.

Advice for Aspiring Women Leaders:

Ms Ntsiko advises young women aspiring to lead in Human Capital or similar positions to have confidence, keep learning, and find mentors who can guide them on their journey.

Reflections on Women's Month:

Women's Month holds personal significance for Ms Ntsiko, as it celebrates the achievements of women and ensures their voices are heard. She believes that women belong in places where decisions are made and that the month can inspire progress toward gender equality by giving women more opportunities in the workplace, offering flexible work arrangements, and enforcing anti-discrimination policies. Her leadership and commitment to creating an inclusive, supportive workplace culture make her a role model for women in Human Capital and beyond. Her journey reflects the importance of empathy, continuous learning, and empowerment in leadership.

NCPL ART IS THERAPY WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS



Mr. Ntwaso keynote speaker for the day

On the 8th of August 2024, the Northern Cape Provincial Legislature hosted a dynamic "Art is Therapy" session in celebration of Women's Day. Mr. PB Moopelwa, Secretary of the Legislature, opened the event with a powerful reminder that achieving true equality is a shared responsibility. He emphasized the theme "Together in Equality," stressing that collaboration, respect, and mutual responsibility are essential for fostering an inclusive society. Empowering women and involving men as active partners were key points in his address.





“We’re making strides towards a more equal and inclusive society by empowering women and engaging men as active partners in breaking down stereotypes and fostering a culture of respect and collaboration.” – Mr. PB Moopelwa, Secretary of the Legislature.



Mr Nosi serenades the crowd with a special cover of “Hold onto Memories” by Disturbed

The keynote speaker, Mr. MJ Ntwaso, further inspired attendees by highlighting the importance of uplifting women in the community. He encouraged everyone to extend the same respect and kindness to others, especially women, that they would want for themselves.

The session concluded with Mr. N Tshandu delivering a heartfelt vote of thanks and presenting a few lucky attendees with books as tokens of appreciation. The event reflected the collective strides towards building a more equal and inclusive society.

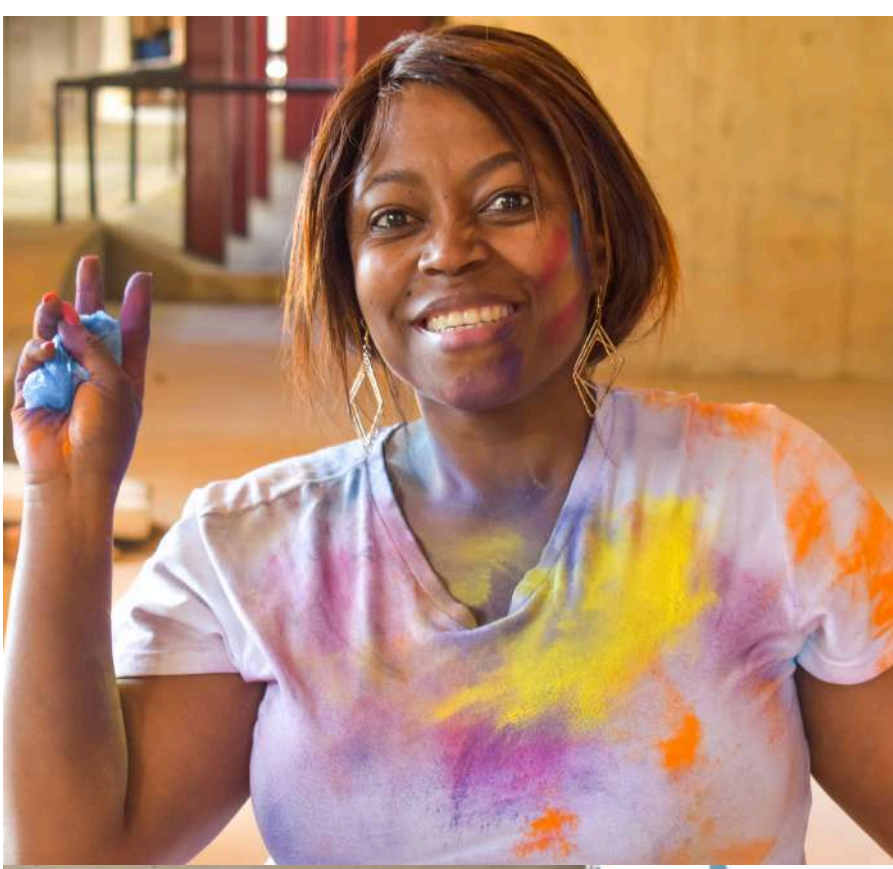




A MELTING POT OF CULTURE, POLITICS, AND ECONOMICS







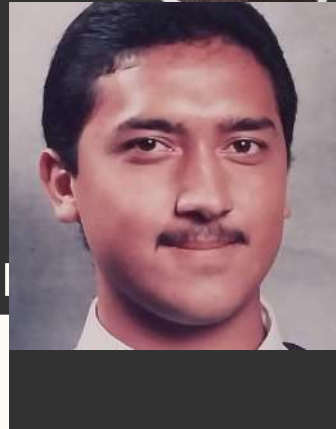
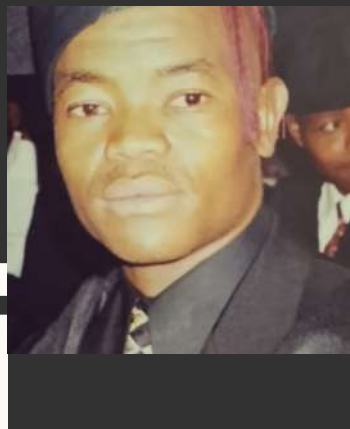
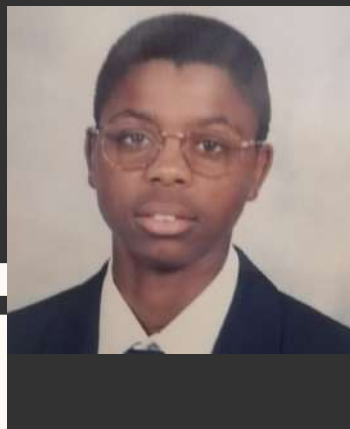


WALL OF FAME: CLASS OF LEGISLATURE





WALL OF FAME: CLASS OF LEGISLATURE



WOMEN'S MONTH MESSAGE FROM THE S P E A K E R

To the Youthful girl in school, To you, Young Woman
in Your new job

To you, the Worship lady in Church.

To You, the Respectable Ma'am of the Community. To
the Hardworking Wife of The Family To the Nurturing
and Caring Mother of the Child

To You, In the workplace making your mark against a
male dominated industry. To The work you carry, to
the strength you have to keep refuelling even when
you cannot go on anymore.

I know you do not have it easy. I know it can be
hard. I understand. I want you to know that You Are
not alone. We are all With You. I am With You. I
commend your Womanhood. I am rooting for you,
and I am proud of you.

Through you, Mountains have been shaken. Through
your backbones, Empires have been built. You have
always been the most Important pillar of Humanity.

Through You, Legislation has been changed. Your
Resilience in hard times is nothing short of
inspirational. You are the motivation that the world
relies on. I want to take this time to encourage you
all as women in your different spheres and
circumstances of life: Keep Going. Keep Moving. You
are important. You are everything. You are WOMAN.
Wishing you Godspeed in all your endeavours of life.

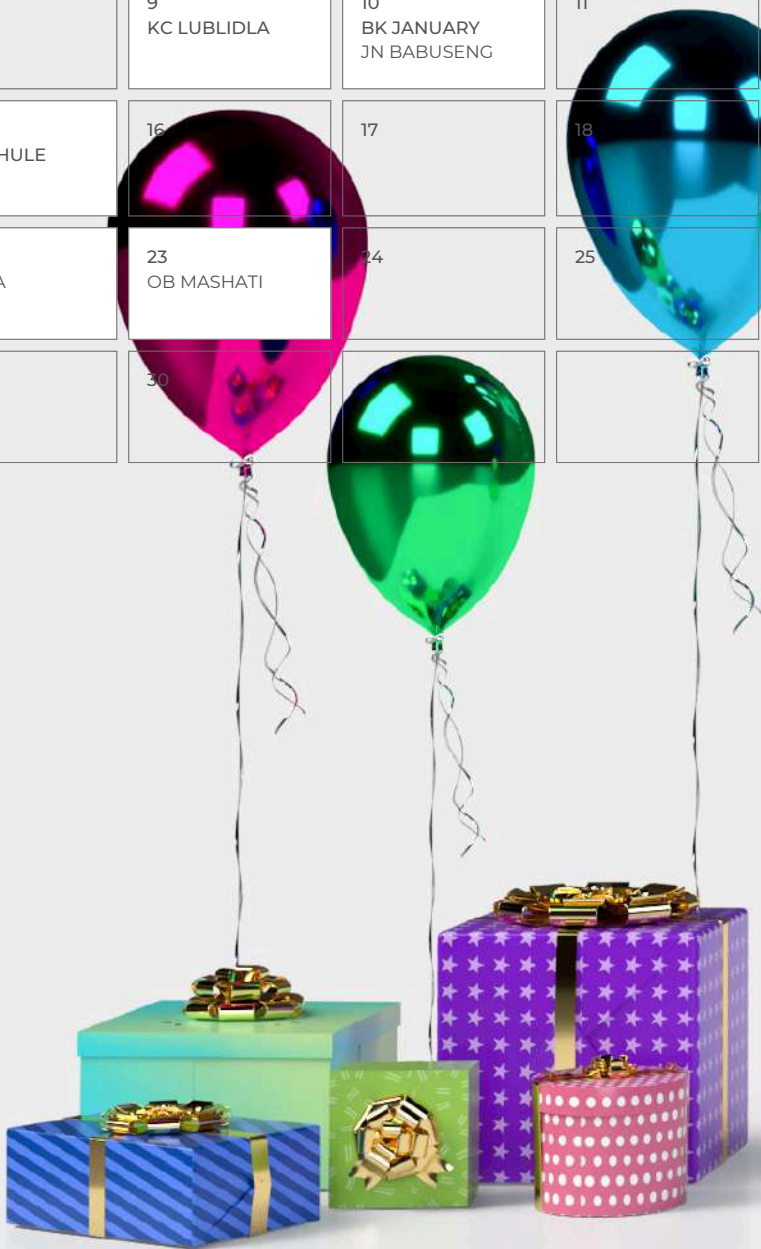
May God continue being with all of you in your
journeys beyond Women's Month.

Phemelo Hemilton Matlhaba
Media Intern (Office of the Speaker)



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 MK LETSEMA	3	4	5 EZ FRANSMAN	6	7
8	9 KC LUBLIDLA	10 BK JANUARY JN BABUSENG	11	12	13	14 T KOLOANE
15 I K MOPHULE	16	17	18	19	20 TDT RIET NH BORCHARD	21
22 N KOBA	23 OB MASHATI	24	25	26 L NDAMASE	27	28
29	30					

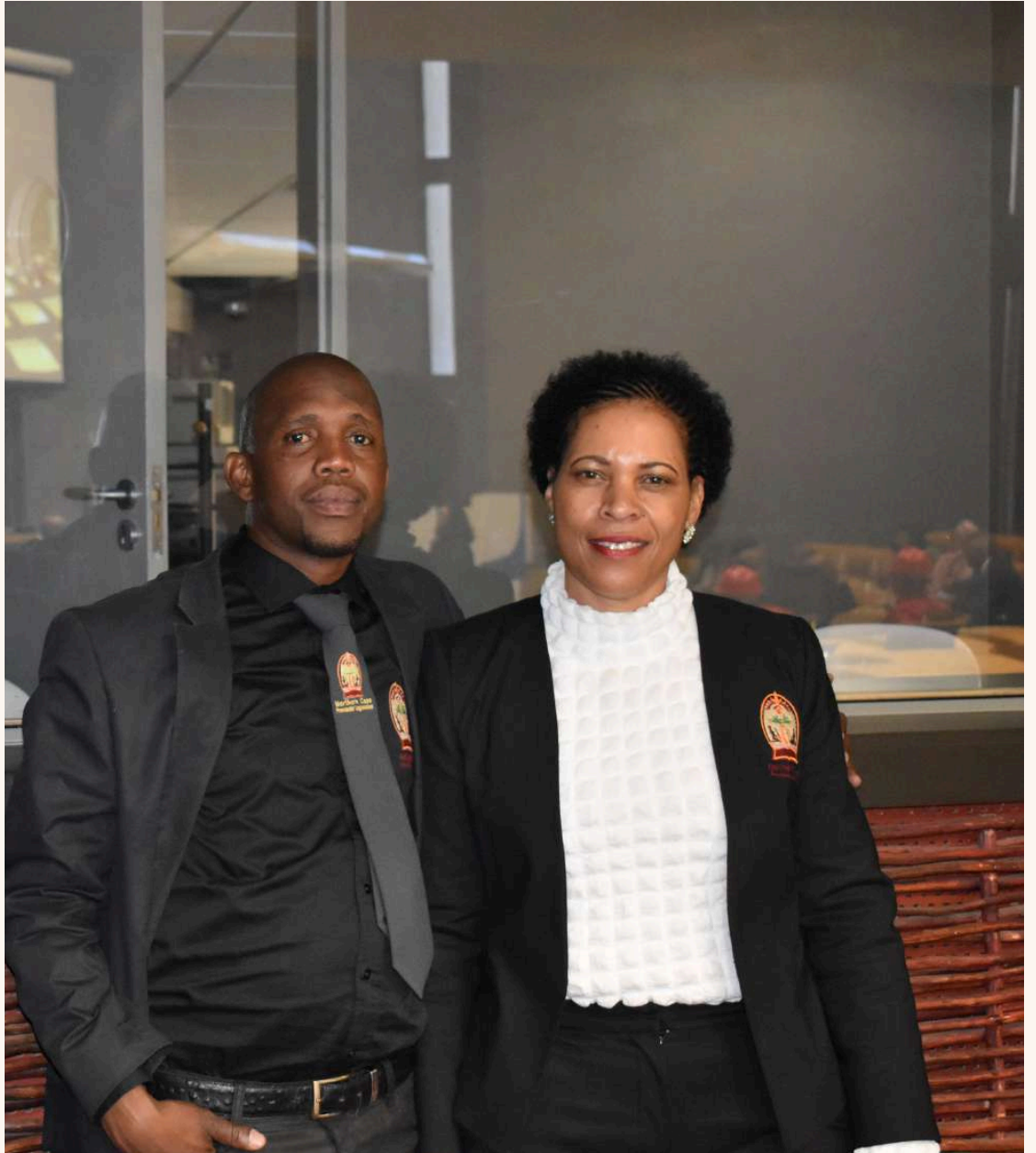
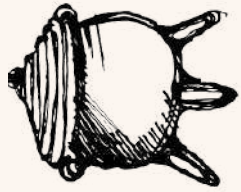




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Can't Spot Yourself in This Edition?

No worries! Feel free to ask NCPL Comms to snap a picture the next time an event rolls around, or be sure to flash that smile when the camera's on you! Still can't find your picture? We're sorry to hear that! Sometimes the photo may not be the most flattering, but we appreciate you taking the time to stop, pose, and share a smile with us! We appreciate your continued support and encourage you to stay tuned for future publications.

Be sure to scan the QR code to visit our website, where you can explore more about what's happening at the Northern Cape Provincial Legislature.

Also Don't forget to follow us on all our social media platforms to stay updated with the latest news and events. We look forward to engaging with you again soon!

