



INTERNAL UPDATES: Ezekhaya



JULY -SEP. 2025/2026FY





Message from the Municipal Manager

Dear Colleagues,

As we conclude the first quarter of the 2025/2026 financial year, I want to extend my sincere appreciation to each and every one of you for your commitment and contribution to our municipality's work. The first quarter is always a period of setting the pace—planning, implementing, and aligning our efforts with the priorities of Council and the expectations of our community.

This internal publication provides us with an important platform to reflect, share experiences, and celebrate our collective successes. It also reminds us that while challenges may arise, we are stronger when we face them together. Let us continue to carry forward the momentum built during this quarter and use it as a foundation for even greater impact in the months ahead.

As we move into the next quarter, I urge all of us to remain focused, innovative, and committed to our shared goal of delivering sustainable and quality services to our community. Together, we can achieve more.

Thank you for your hard work and unwavering dedication.

Mr.L.Mahlaka
Municipal Manager



Message from the Head of Communications

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great pride and excitement that I present to you the first issue of our internal publication. This is a milestone for us as an institution, giving us a dedicated platform to share updates, highlight achievements, and keep one another informed and inspired as one municipal family.

This publication is a collective effort that reflects the spirit of collaboration within our municipality. I would especially like to acknowledge the Human Resources Office for their valuable contributions in helping bring this publication to life. Their support, along with inputs from various departments, demonstrates how much we can achieve when we work together.

As the Communications Unit, our goal is to ensure that this platform grows into a trusted space for learning, sharing, and celebrating the good work being done across the municipality. I encourage every staff member to participate by contributing stories, suggestions, or reflections that can inspire and strengthen our bond as colleagues.

May this first issue mark the beginning of a new culture of openness, teamwork, and shared pride in the service we deliver to our communities.

Mr. Thamsanqa Cwibi
Head of Communications



OFFICIAL SWEARING-IN OF NEW COUNCILLORS AT WINNIE MADIKIZELA-MANDELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

The Winnie Madikizela-Mandela Local Municipality has officially welcomed two new councillors to its council, following the filling of vacant positions.

On 22 August 2025, Cllr. Mabhiza Phakama was sworn in to replace the late Cllr. Voko. His appointment was confirmed by the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC). The official swearing-in ceremony was conducted by the Municipal Manager, Mr. L. Mahlaka, who welcomed Cllr. Phakama on behalf of the municipality and wished him success in his new role.

Subsequently, on 28 August 2025, Cllr. Sthembiso Mhlengi Sabuka was sworn in as the new representative of the Academic Congress Union (ACU), taking over from Cllr. Isaac Myalezwa Sabuka. The Speaker of Council, Cllr. Z. Mhlwazi, presided over the ceremony and encouraged the new

the new councillor with these words:

"As you now assume office as a councillor, you are entrusted with the responsibility to listen and represent both the Municipality and the community. Always remember that respect for the people will help you build strong, cooperative relationships with them."

The Municipality extends its best wishes to Cllr. Phakama and Cllr. Sabuka, trusting that their leadership will be guided by wisdom, fairness, and a deep commitment to serving the community.

"As you now assume office as a councillor, you are entrusted with the responsibility to listen and represent both the Municipality and the community."



HAPPY HERITAGE MONTH TO OUR WMMLM FAMILY

As the month comes to an end, we hope that you all reflected on your roots and heritage and shared special memories

ATLANTA DELEGATION MEETS WITH WINNIE MADIKIZELA-MANDELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY LEADERSHIP

On 28 August, the Winnie Madikizela-Mandela Local Municipality had the honour of welcoming Dr. Marjè Etheridge, a visionary social entrepreneur and social impact producer from the United States.

The meeting, held in the Council Chamber at the Civic Centre, was attended by Her Worship the Mayor, Cllr. TD Mafumbatha, together with members of the Executive Committee. The delegation engaged in meaningful discussions centred on the upcoming celebration of Mama Winnie Madikizela-Mandela's birthday.

The municipality aims to celebrate this important occasion as a way of preserving Mama Winnie's legacy. She remains a figure of perseverance, courage, and resilience, and continues to stand as a global symbol of resistance against apartheid.

This partnership and exchange of ideas mark a significant step in ensuring that Mama Winnie's name and contribution are remembered and celebrated across borders, highlighting her influence both locally and internationally.



LEADERSHIP IN ACTION: ENGAGING RESIDENTS FOR CHANGE

WMMLM leadership hosts Thetha Nathi Mhlali live session to listen, respond, and involve residents in service delivery.

On 01 July 2025, the Communications Unit of the Winnie Madikizela-Mandela Local Municipality (WMMLM) hosted a Thetha Nathi Mhlali live session, providing a platform for residents to engage directly with municipal leadership.

Her Worship, the Mayor Cllr. TD Mafumbatha, together with Cllr. NM Njomi (Community Services) and Cllr. Dlamini (Engineering Services), sincerely thanked all community members who participated. The session allowed residents to ask questions, raise concerns, and provide valuable input on service delivery and municipal programmes.

According to Mr. Thamsanqa Cwibi, Head of Communications at WMMLM, the live session was designed to create a direct and accessible channel between

municipal leadership and the community. He explained that the platform allows residents to voice their concerns, ask questions, and contribute ideas that help shape municipal programmes and service delivery. Mr. Cwibi emphasized that engaged and informed communities are central to effective governance, and initiatives like Thetha Nathi Mhlali strengthen transparency, accountability, and collaborative decision-making.

As the 2025-2026 financial year begins, the Mayor and councillors encouraged all residents to remain engaged and actively participate in the implementation of municipal initiatives. They emphasized that community involvement is key to driving meaningful change and ensuring that programmes meet local needs effectively.

Thetha Nathi Mhlali continues to serve as an important tool for transparent governance, accountability, and fostering collaboration between the municipality and its communities. WMMLM remains committed to listening, responding, and working hand in hand with residents to build stronger, more resilient communities.





WMMLM Hosts Eastern Cape Directors Forum 2025

From 06 to 08 August 2025, the Winnie Madikizela-Mandela Local Municipality (WMMLM) proudly hosted the Eastern Cape Directors Forum, a three-day provincial gathering facilitated by EC-COGTA (Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs) at the Wild Coast Sun in Ward 24.

The forum brought together Directors of Corporate Services and Portfolio Heads from municipalities across the province, with the purpose of strengthening institutional development, improving capabilities, fostering good governance, and enhancing municipal performance and decision-making.

Her Worship, the Mayor Cllr T.D. Mafumbatha, warmly welcomed delegates on behalf of WMMLM, emphasizing the importance of collaboration in improving governance and service delivery. Day 1 set the tone with presentations from various Eastern Cape municipalities, where



challenges were openly discussed and best practices shared to inspire innovative approaches. Over the following days, stakeholders including the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) and the Office of the Auditor-General delivered valuable presentations. These engagements focused on strengthening technical skills, ensuring compliance, and working towards improved audit outcomes for municipalities across the province. On 08 August, the forum concluded with strong resolutions aimed at providing support to municipalities under administration and those in need of

tion was highly beneficial to the area. In addition to the governance discussions, the event also boosted the local economy, as visiting delegates supported local businesses during their stay.

The forum ended on a positive and determined note, with Eastern Cape municipalities united in their vision to build stronger institutions, deliver quality services, and foster a culture of good governance.



WMMLM LOCAL LABOUR FORUM OFFICIALLY FUNCTIONAL



The Winnie Madikizela-Mandela Local Municipality (WMMLM) is proud to announce that the Local Labour Forum (LLF) became fully functional on 23 June 2025.

The LLF is a joint structure composed of representatives from both labour and the employer. Its primary focus is to promote the interests and well-being of workers, while ensuring fair and transparent management of employment relations within the Municipality.

As a recognized platform, the LLF addresses all labour-related matters submitted by the Municipality. It has the authority to make determinations on employment issues, including the termination of contracts where necessary and in line with due process.

The Chairperson of the LLF is Mr. Q. Magini, who will guide the forum in its mission to create a space where workers and management can come together to resolve matters constructively.

The establishment of this forum is an important step towards uniting employees and employer representatives, fostering collaboration, and promoting fair labour practices. Through this partnership, WMMLM aims to strengthen workplace relations built on mutual respect, accountability, and shared progress.

The Municipality acknowledges the vital role of the LLF and encourages all employees to support its work for the benefit of both the workforce and the community we serve.

Upcoming Events and Programmes

1. Community Safety Awareness Campaign at Youth Centre – 01 October 2025 – Mbizana Youth Centre
2. Media Briefing For Winnie Madikizela-Mandela Golf Day –
3. Winnie Madikizela- Mandela Golf Day 03 October 2025
4. Launch of Agriparks Programme by ANDM -15 October 2025 at Sigidi village
5. OR Tambo Children's Legacy Programme 23 October 2025
6. Umzila KaTambo Marathon- 26 October 2025

NEW ENTRANTS

